

POSTER: TIGER CUP WINNERS 泰 泰 泰 THAILAND

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCER

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NEWCASTLE SIGN NEW PLAYING APPAREL SPONSOR

Editorial

Success in a club associated with the World Game is not measured solely by what happens in competitive situations on the field of play. Many factors come together to make the whole, the actual game is just a part of the total picture.

Some would argue that it is the reason for everything. That is almost certainly the case in junior clubs. It is, or more likely is becoming, a subsidiary part of a total picture in the professional club of the future in Australia.

A club has to make itself attractive to sponsors, patrons of all ages both male and female, to television, to the local council, to the general sports fan even to those who are seeking entertainment and, last but not least, players and coaching staff.

All these diverse people and entities like to be associated with a successful organisation.

A club should exist every minute, of every day, throughout the year and on into the future. A season of association football might last six months and the entertainers are on the field maybe 90 minutes every two weeks.

So something else is needed to keep the organisation, the entity, the club going for it to be truly professional.

Some clubs in NSW and the ACT have had the benefit of gaining through poker machines, Keno and horse race betting which have enabled them to build better facilities for their licensed club patrons and to improve their grounds and spectator comforts.

These forms of income are recently becoming available clubs in Victoria, Queensland and South Australia. However they are not necessarily a source of endless income for the sport. The people who attend the licensed clubs have to be attracted by continual improvement to the premises.

Regardless a club must market itself. Some directors or committees see marketing as a low priority. They will probably fade away if they continue with that blinkered view.

Far be it for this column to compare one Ericsson Cup club to another but comments are called for.

South Melbourne, or if you like the Lakers, are extremely active. Next Friday they are having a "Guernsey Presentation Night" where amongst other activities attendees can bid to "Sponsor a Player". Most importantly the club is offering the chance to meet all 22 players in the first team squad.

The Newcastle Breakers Football Pty Ltd is to be known as The Topper Breakers or The Breakers.

A big change.

Why this change? Because they have signed a substantial business deal with a major Argentine based Sportswear company.

These two clubs are a shining example to the future.

Brisbane Strikers, or should that be the Strikers, are continually putting out informative news items. They're publicising their activities. They may have a gripe about something, the most recent being last weekend's Johnnie Walker Cup Semi Final venue, but they always turn it into a positive. Smart work with words.

The arrival of Collingwood from Victoria, the merging of UTS Olympic with Sydney Bulldogs are all good for the game in the long term.

All of these activities are bringing a new approach, new vitality. If clubs, as a matter of daily activity, inform the media and through them the public of events of importance then they will raise their profiles in the public arena.

This will help to entice increasing crowds to go along to their games. Increased crowds build atmosphere but more importantly generate more revenue which is what the individual organisations need in order to grow.

— Bob Brooks



Newcastle Breakers are no more - they now wish to be known as 'TOPPER BREAKERS'

Following Sydney Olympic's path in adopting their sponsors name to become UTS Olympic the Novacastrians have signed up with the Argentinian Sportswear Company 'Topper' which has extensive links throughout South America, South-East Asia and Japan and whose name they will carry.

The deal is believed to be worth somewhere in the region of \$100,000 p.a.

The South American Company is a strong supporter of football and as well as sponsoring a number of teams in it's home continent, is also involved with the game in

each country where it operates.

The Chairman of the Company's Australian distributor Mr. John Holder said: "Australia is a very important market for Topper as it represents it's first foray into an English-speaking country. In looking at initial soccer sponsorship opportunities, Topper were greatly impressed by the Breakers. As well as being a well-run club with a very broad support base, they play an open, exciting type of soccer, very much after the South American style."

"They are also a fairly new, relatively young team who over the next few years have the potential to become a major force in the Australian League."



John Kosmina: Has become a coach of Topper Breakers without moving.



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MARCONI MARCHES INTO CUP

by JOHN ECONOMOS



MARCONI charged into Sunday's Johnnie Walker Cup Final setting up a clash with Zoran Matic's Collingwood Warriors at Melbourne's Bob Jane Stadium after they defeated a gallant Brisbane Strikers 5-0 last Saturday night, on a rainy pitch at the Marconi Stadium.

Mark Battistin, Brisbane's tenacious, lanky central marker, went from 'hero to zero' when he was sent off by referee Eddie Lennie 17 minutes from the bell for a second bookable offence. Lennie alleged his robust shoulder charge on Sean Babic was unfair.

The outstanding Battistin, not only was strong in the tackle, but in the first half twice seriously launched into the attack without an ounce of luck.

In the 12th minute Battistin raced forward to meet a perfect cross whipped in from the right by diminutive midfielder Gary Phillips, only to see his crashing header ricochet off the far post and deny Frank Farina's young side a well-deserved early equaliser.

Seven minutes from the break it was Battistin again in action. Raiding up the left

flank the Queensland defender rifled a magnificent 20 metre rocketing drive from an angle that forced the alert Marconi 'keeper Bobby Catlin to desperately stretch to his left to again deny him.

Irony as it may sound, this was not a Marconi 5-0 trouncing of Brisbane.

Although the Queenslanders trailed 1-0 at the break, in fact it was Brisbane Strikers that held the upper hand with Battistin and the Cranney brothers (Sean and Troy) cutting deep inroads into Marconi territory.

Marconi drew first blood as early as in the eighth minute when their classy, mobile and recently signed, international midfielder Craig Foster scored following good lead-up work from Francis Awaritefe and Brad Maloney.

Marconi's brilliant left wing-back Brendan Renaud, performed marvellously in the first session, strongly defending and when in possession, penetrating well to set up attacks.

Playing although suffering from severe tonsillitis and under anti-biotics, Renaud was wisely replaced at the break by mobile marker Gary Van Egmond as a precaution for Sunday's Cup Final.

Brisbane five minutes after



Francis Awaritefe: His two goals set up the Strikers demise.

'drinks' again were denied yet another equaliser, this time by the assistant referee's flag. Dynamic 19 year old striker Wayne Knipe found the target.

With a defiant Brisbane holding out and frustrating the home side to just their slender one goal lead, it was left to reliable Marconi defender Dominic Longo to double the scoreline and provide at that stage a much needed cushion.

Marconi's strong right midfielder Luke Casserly following a corner in the 64th minute, perfectly crossed from his flank allowing Longo to unleash a crashing header past Brisbane's goalie Clint Bolton.

Four minutes later striker Awaritefe salvaged Marconi's authority over the match making it 3-0 following a crisp through-ball by that man, Foster.

Brisbane's woes were compounded well and truly in the 73rd minute with the red card shown to Battistin and four minutes later Marconi's mobile midfielder Matthew Bingley made it 4-0 after receiving a square ball from the industrious flank-midfielder Casserly.

The gangling Awaritefe finished off the scoring, and his second for the match, four

minutes from the bell after receiving a through-ball from Van Egmond.

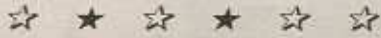
Having scored a brace and setting up Foster for his first goal, Awaritefe earned the 'Johnnie Walker Man Of The Match' award, very closely followed by Catlin. While for Brisbane Troy Cranney and Battistin till being sent off were outstanding in a losing side.

Manfred Schaefer, Marconi's coach, stated: "I felt that in the first 20 odd minutes we should have punished them severely, but then again our 'keeper Bobby Catlin made some very crucial saves. I admit we weren't a five goal better side. Far from it."

Meanwhile a not too despondent Brisbane coach Frank Farina, evaluated: "I felt we had the first half yet conceded a goal following their first real attack. We forced their 'keeper Catlin to make a few excellent saves. But that red-card incident was a bad decision as it was for a strong shoulder charge. I was happy with a lot of aspects of the game but after going down to 10 men we were being punished for small errors."

"I rate Marconi as one of the real championship favourites for the new season."

MARCONI



Catlin: Longo (Zoric 79), Holst, Stanton: Casserly, Maloney (Ravanello 59), Bingley, Foster, Renaud (Van Egmond 46): Awaritefe, Babic.



BRISBANE STRIKERS



Bolton: Battistin, Hunter, Gwynne: S.Cranney, Wehrman, Phillips (Hews 77), Brayshaw (Ditton 14), T.Cranney: Brown (Tollenaere 62), Knipe.

SCORERS: Foster (8), Longo (64), Awaritefe (68, 86), Bingley (77).

Yellow Cards: Longo 21st for Marconi and Battistin 18th and 73rd, Hunter 72nd, Wehrman 80th for Brisbane Strikers.

Red card: Battistin (73).

Referee: E.Lennie.



Glen Gwynne: Has been performing well as a sweeper in pre-season games.

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WARRIORS ALREADY WAGING WAR

By GREG BLAKE

Far and away the largest crowd of the current Johnny Walker Cup series turned out for Chapter One of what promises to become one of the league's greatest rivalries when South Melbourne met the newly-formed Collingwood Warriors in last Friday night's semi final.

And it's a fair guess that a significant proportion of the near 7,000 through the Bob Jane Stadium turnstiles were curiosity seekers eager to evaluate the Warriors in their first official appearance on home state soil.

Most of them left the stadium very, very impressed.

If not with the standard of the sometimes mistake-riddled game, at least with the rapidly improving and already dangerous Collingwood Warriors.

Boasting a heady blend of youth, talented soon-to-be well known faces and some not inconsiderable experience the Collingwood boys, playing with some trademark Zoran Matic style, blitzed South Melbourne 3-1 to edge to within 90 minutes of a national trophy at first attempt.

And they did it without several players the Warriors are still trying to register or the not unimpressive bench strength of the likes of Con Boutsianis, Brian MacNicol and Victorian Player of the Year Ike Alagiozidis.

Not that they were needed, given the starting eleven had

the measure of the insipid Lakers for much of the game.

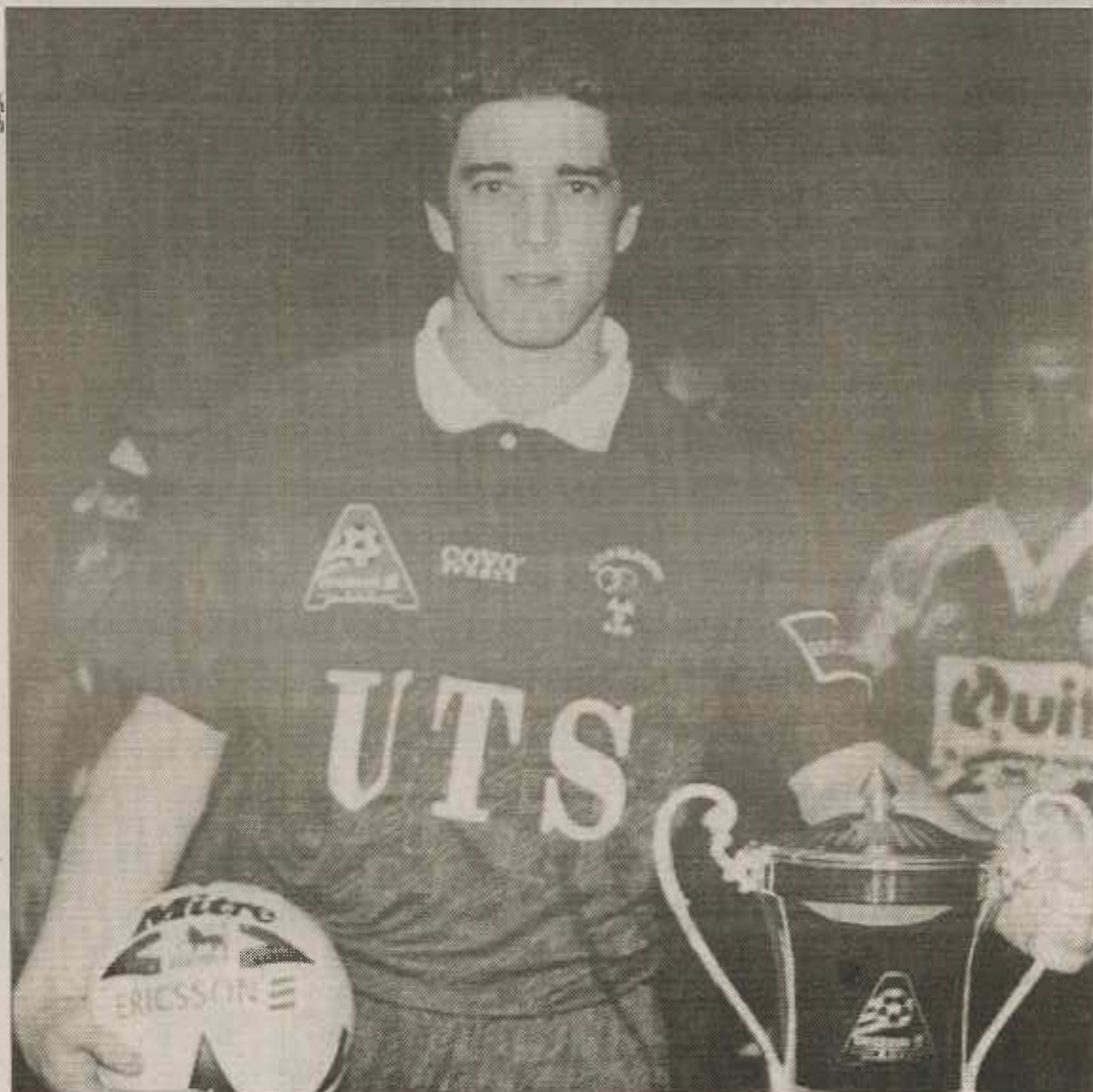
Admittedly South Melbourne had a list of nine players unavailable for the match - four of them arguably senior starters - but they did field all the gun signings, David Clarkson, Warren Spink and Jason Polak as well as returned Socceroo Paul Trimboli.

To be so decisively beaten except for an all-too brief period of the game must be a concern for those anticipating an immediate Laker revival.

After a measured start Collingwood grabbed the lead 25 minutes in thanks to a cool finish from pint-sized Andy Vlahos, with the Lakers getting on terms with a Spink header early after the break.

Until then the patient Warriors had dictated the pace of the game but an adrenalin-charged Laker flourish provided the best test for the league newcomers.

They answered in emphatic fashion, led from the front by inspirational and surprisingly



Kimon Taliadoros: Finished off a great Ernie Tapai and Goran Lozanovski combination.

hard-hitting skipper Kimon Taliadoros, the brilliant Goran Lozanovski and Ernie Tapai, who starred in his best performance at this level for years.

This trio combined to end the Laker run on 70 minutes, with Taliadoros scoring at the tail end of a scorching Tapai burst and Lozanovski cross.

Vlahos bobbed up again four minutes later to settle the issue and ensure that he, along with several lesser-knowns like Steve Iosifidis, will make a mark in the summer to come.

In a decision probably based on the impressive turnout on Friday night - the game attracted more people through the gates than the previous six Johnny Walker Cup finals - the league announced that the Warriors would host their historic first final, against Marconi, at the Bob Jane Stadium this Sunday.



Johnnie Walker Cup Statistics for the Record

— FIRST ROUND, SECOND LEG —

Brisbane Strikers: Bolton, Harris (Tollenaere 72), Hunter A, Phillips, Wehrman, Brown R, Cranney T, Knipe, Brayshaw (Hews 69), Gwynne, Battistin.

UTS Olympic: Bouhoutsos, Barrett, Ciantar, Zelic, Tsekenis, Tome, Ardone, Meredith (Refenes 53), Baillie, Emerton, Augerinos (Sorras 46).

Referee: S. Micallef.

Scorers: Strikers — Battistin (21), Brown (38), Brayshaw (40).

Olympic — Zelic (73).

South Melbourne: Petkovic M, Anthopoulos, Orlic, Kuzmanovic, coveny, Damianos, Goutzious, Baser, Allsopp, Curcija, Tsirtsakis (Knezevic J81).

Melbourne Knights: Knezevic V, DeAmicis, Cervinski D, Markovsky Z, Antoniadis R (Nastevski 32), Simunic, Spiteri, Lapsansky (Markovski J 59), Vojtek, tiatto, Pondeljak T.

Referee: G. Connolly.

Scorer: South — Curcija (12).

Newcastle Breakers: Baker, Sprod, Moore, Ironside, Lowe, Halpin (sharpley 70), Wilson (Heath 46), austin, James, McManus, Eldridge (McGuire 69).

Marconi Fairfield: Catlin, Stanton, Bingley, Casserly, (Babic S 70), Harper, Maloney, Ravenello, Holst, Awaritefe, Souris, Renaud (De Marigny 64).

Referee: G. Leverton.

Scorers: Breakers — Ironside (75), **Marconi** — Awaritefe (25, 37), Maloney 41.

Adelaide City:

Collingwood:

LINE-UPS NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

COLLINGWOOD DETERMINED TO SUCCEED

By BOB BROOKS

Collingwood Warriors are busy trialling a number of players to ensure they are a competitive force in the Ericsson Cup.

Zoran Matic, the highly respected and successful coach, was surprisingly tempted out of temporary retirement to guide the new club.

The entry of the Warriors into the national soccer league is a big challenge for the best supported sports club in Australia.

The Aussie Rules supporters are fanatical about their beloved Collingwood. Maybe some will see fit to also support the soccer team at Victoria Park in Abbotsford the Club's home ground.

Arthur Evriniadis is the Chief Executive Officer of the Warriors. He has the task of making the whole a business like working organisation and a credit to the Collingwood club.

The 1996 Victoria Premier League ABSW - Pascoe Vale Sportsman Player of the Year, Ike Alagiozidis is just one of the players trying for a spot with the Warriors.

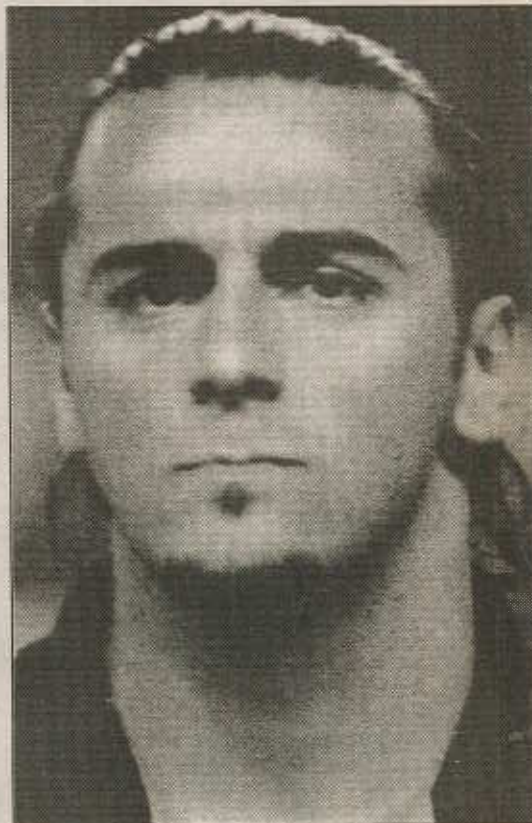
To be able to say in

Melbourne that you play for Collingwood is a proud boast. Now that applies equally to soccer as it does to Aussie Rules.

The following players are currently with:

Collingwood Warriors:

Dean Anastasiadis (former team: South Melbourne), Dean Fak (Melbourne Warriors), Alan Scott (Heidelberg United), Rich Cerraccia (Campbelltown, SA), Leigh Tsoumerkas (Melbourne Warriors), Steve Iosifidis (Melbourne Warriors), Carlo Talladira (Morwell Falcons), Ernie Tapai (Morwell Falcons), Goran Lozanovski (Adelaide City), Kimon Taliadoros (UTS Olympic), Andy Vlahos (Melbourne Warriors), George Jolevski (Wollongong Wolves), Brian MacNicol (Melbourne Warriors), Con Boutsianis (South Melbourne), Ike Alagiozidis (Bentleigh Greens).



Goran Lozanovski: Player with experience internationally, who will be a mainstay at the Warriors.

SKILLS TRAINING ON THE INCREASE

by BOB BROOKS

Last week's Editorial prompted a call from Robert Forrai who is a coach of juniors in the Kuringai Association. Kuringai covers the area north of Sydney Harbour, up the Pacific Highway out to Cowan.

The Association has long promised good things but in recent years has suffered because of a lack of any senior semi professional teams in the Ericsson Cup, the NSW Soccer Federation Super League or First Division. Parents feel that if their child has talent they must go elsewhere to give them a chance of reaching the top.

Talent has certainly been identified and nurtured. Kuringai were one of the first Associations to introduce specific skills training for the most talented players in the Under 10 age group.

Mr Forrai tells that the scheme has been in operation for about ten years and is still going. A ten week program, twice a week outside the competitive season is the method of imparting the skills that the World Game requires.

Sessions cover such skills as passing and receiving, shooting, heading, volleying, chipping for about 90 minutes.



Grant Lee (R) expounds his views on skills coaching to Joe Watson his Club Coach. Lee is regional skills coach for Manly Kuringai and Gladesville in Sydney.

Then they boys break into groups to put into practice what they have learnt as they play a 30 minute game.

Goalkeepers are part of the group. Their trainer is an ex centre forward who teaches them how to get behind the ball, angles, kicking a dead ball and from the hands. He teaches from a strikers perspective.

The original idea has now

been expanded by the initiative of the highly respected David Lee who originated out from Kuringai Association and is the NSW Director of Coaching.

Five metropolitan zones plus Central Coast have been created across NSW for the sole purpose of teaching skills. From October 14 to March 26 on two nights a week the players meet and

refine their association football skills. Every couple of weeks the pupils play games against other zones.

Such experienced players as Grant Lee and Glenn Fontana run these zones. Gladesville, Kuringai and Manly Associations make up one group or zone and Lee is the Skills Coach.

The players are kept together by ages ie. 11 and 12

year olds. 13s and 14s are another with the aim of feeding into Australia's Under 17 Joeys squad.

So skills training is certainly there for select groups. The long term effect is gradually being seen at club and national level.

Regretfully the hard work put in by coaches such as Robert Forrai in Kuringai is reaping rewards for teams 30 or more kilometres from their home base. Added to which private schools also knock out a large percentage of players at Under 13.

Many of these institutions demand that the pupil give up Saturday soccer in order to play rugby union for the school. If not then the boy is not offered a place at the school.

Another 20% or so, stop playing the great game because the best have gone to another Association to play Reps, or have been hived off by private schools and their team is too weak.

Now there's a challenge, how should it be addressed?

The players are being given the opportunity of learning the skills necessary to compete at the top level and that can only be for the good of everyone.

Young Socceroos lose to Argentina

The Coca-Cola Socceroos opened their month-long tour of South America with a defeat at the hands of the Argentine Under 20 team.

Playing just 36 hours after reaching South America, the Australian team more than matched Argentina in the first half of a physical match.

The Australians led One-Nil at the break thanks to a strike from Billy Damianos, who side-footed a cross from Michael Garcia from wide on the left. Damianos' volley from 10 metres sent Australia to the break with a One-goal lead.

Argentina equalised in the 47th minute as the pace slowed in the second half. The Coca-Cola Young Socceroos began to feel the impact of the 20 hours of travel that got them to Argentina. Inevitably the home side struck the winner one minute from full time to take a 2-1 victory.

Coach Les Sheinflug said,

"while the loss was disappointing, the second half performance showed a fighting spirit as tiredness set in. I expect the squad to show much improvement during the tour."

Team: Danny Milosevic, Michael Kladis, Brett Emerton, Ivan Zelic, Con Blasis, Michael Garcia, Billy Damianos (Costa Salapsidis 70), Mark Robertson, Andrew Vargas (Ante Seric 62), Clayton Zane (Daniel Allsop 74), Michael Curcija.



Schaefer Urgently Wants Johnnie Walker Cup Final

by JOHN ECONOMOS

MANFRED SCHAEFER, Marconi's master-coach, is extremely determined, to take out the Johnnie Walker Cup Final, almost at any cost when his side clashes with Zoran Matic's newly-created League side, Collingwood Warriors next Sunday kick off 3pm at Melbourne's Bob Jane Stadium.

A determined and somewhat angry Schaefer, stated to ABSW last night: "Right now I want everybody at Marconi to focus on Sunday's Johnnie Walker Cup Final.

"I just cannot believe that a high-profile club such as Marconi has been able to win the Cup Final only on one occasion.(1980).

"As well, I cannot believe that Marconi in all these past years has only been Runners-up on two occasions, (1977 and 1992, against eventual Cup Winners Brisbane City and Adelaide City).

"For a Club such as Marconi, who over the past 20 years has had just so many illustrious, high-profile internationals on it books, we have only been able to win the National Cup just once.

"That for me is far from being good enough.

"I know Cup Finals are always totally unpredictable, but winning it only once over 20 years?."

"No, that's far from being acceptable.

"It's a prestigious Cup and

Marconi wants it.

"I want it.

"The League Championship is always vital to every club.

"But for me right now, and for my players, I am concentrating on nothing else but Sunday's 'Johnnie Walker Cup.

"That's all.

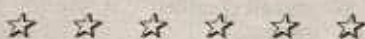
"Nothing else," threatened a frustrated Schaefer.

The National Cup has been missing from Sydney for two years, can Marconi retrieve it on Sunday come the final whistle?

One must however keep in mind, Collingwood's coach Zoran Matic, despite his superb footballing intelligence, is far from being any type of philanthropist.

Matic has twice (1989 & 92), won the NSL Cup with his previously beloved side, Adelaide City.

Past Cup Winners and Runners-Up.



1977: BRISBANE CITY-Marconi.

1978: BRISBANE CITY-Adelaide City.

1979: ADELAIDE CITY-St George.

1980: MARCONI-Heidelberg United.

1981: BRISBANE LIONS-West Adelaide.

1982: APIA-Heidelberg United.

1983: SYDNEY OLYMPIC-Heidelberg Utd.

1984: NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD UNITED -Melbourne Croatia.

1985: SYDNEY OLYMPIC-Preston.

1986: SYDNEY CITY-Adelaide City.

1987: SYDNEY CROATIA-South Melbourne.

1988: APIA-Brunswick Juventus.

1989: ADELAIDE CITY-Sydney Olympic.

1990: SOUTH MELBOURNE-Sydney Olympic.

1991: PARRAMATTA EAGLES-Preston.

1992: ADELAIDE CITY-Marconi.

1993: HEIDELBERG UNITED-Parramatta Eagles.

1994: PARRAMATTA EAGLES-Sydney United.

1995: MELBOURNE KNIGHTS-Heidelberg United.

95/96: STH MELBOURNE-Newcastle Breakers.



Zoran Matic: Collingwood Warriors' defiant boss.



Manfred Schaefer: Marconi's hungry coach.

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Olympic not in Greek dictionary

Dear Sir,
I read the letter from Tony Ising in the ABSW Vol. 17 No. 792 and laughed.

Quote from his letter, "Please, Soccer Australia, on behalf of all soccer supporters, get real on ridding our league of ethnic references, however slight or implied."

Mr Ising, Australia as a nation is made up of many groups. The true Australians are the indigenous people who were here many thousands of years before European settlement that means the majority of us are from ethnic backgrounds regardless of what country we originate from. Because it has always been the land of opportunity and promise regardless of race.

Soccer in this country boomed during the 1950s when an influx of settlers arrived from Europe. Being in a new country most of them stuck together working hard to establish themselves and their families for a brighter future and some formed soccer clubs.

Most of these new soccer clubs were named after the new Australians' country of origin or clubs of origin, for example in South Australia, Juventus (Adelaide City), Hellas (West Adelaide), Polonia (Croydon) and Elizabeth (Elizabeth). Did I mention Elizabeth?

Is that not an ethnic name originating from Great Britain? If we were to get serious on the ethnic name issue Canberra would be the only non ethnic name in the league (indigenous origin).

The moral of the story Tony Ising is that whether you like it or not the majority of Australians originate from

ethnic backgrounds and to imply that the code will be called Wogball in Australia in the future proves that you... need I say more!

The ethnic connections are part of the romance a club has in its proud history and you think you can wipe it out, years of hard work down the drain because of a minority of racists. Soccer I dare say would not exist in the same profile if not for the ethnic groups involved who are producing offspring that will carry the clubs through as Australian born and bred people.

Take these classic examples from around the world. In the Italian Serie A these clubs originate from predominant ethnic backgrounds and have formed the basis of the strongest clubs in the world. Juventus FC, AC Milan (British origins), Hellas Verona (Greek origins).

In Argentina who have a similar pattern of migration to what we have here in Australia, they have River Plate, Boca Juniors, Velez Sarsfield, Banfield all ethnic origins, just to highlight a few.

Soccer Australia has taken steps in the right direction eliminating ethnic flags on the shirts of A league clubs and should be commended.

But your suggestion Tony Ising to get rid of their colours really, because they happen to be the same colour as some sort of flag! And I can't find the word Olympic in the Greek dictionary! I guess we are lucky not to have you as a soccer administrator and I write that on behalf of ALL soccer supporters!

Paul Williams,
Salisbury S.A.

Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



Short letters of about 400 words will be given preference in this column.

The opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper

The Editor,
AUSTRALIAN &
BRITISH SOCCER
WEEKLY
PO BOX 155,
MARRICKVILLE
NSW 2204
Fax: (02) 9550-9332

NEW SWAN SONG?

Dear Sir,

While no reasonable person can but admire the success achieved by the Sydney Swans I wonder have they been too successful, too suddenly for their own good?

As they say every action creates a reaction "and despite all this pious talk how all football codes can live in perfect harmony in Sydney the reality is that AFL can only really succeed in NSW and QLD at the expense of RL, Union and other sports.

There is only room for one dominant mainstream football in Sydney and Brisbane (occupied by RL since 1908) with other codes limited to niche market status at best.

At the current rate of growth AFL is endangering RL prominent status in NSW and QLD which could relegate RL to the same marginalised status it has in the north of England.

Unlike RL in England the ARL is much better placed to defend its turf therefore when the civil war in RL subsides I expect a ferocious boots and all counter attack.

Sydney is not just RL heartland it is part of

the games soul.

Critics can damn Aussie rules but Bob Brooks description of Aussie rules as great entertainment but not real football is spot on because it underlines the secret of the games success Unlike nearly all modern professional games especially ours (soccer) where the main emphasis is on winning at all costs with less and less attention paid to entertaining AFL has some how managed to retain a nice balance between the importance of winning and entertaining at the same time.

The brains trust at SA can lavish millions on marketing the "A League but if they can convince players and coaches the importance of playing entertaining football as well as winning games then the task of popularising the 'A' League will be greatly enhanced.

Years ago when soccer first became a major international game it was because of its then great entertainment appeal to all types of people rich and poor across numerous countries.

R. Melor,
Bondi, NSW.

PENALTY SHOOT-OUTS ... THE ANSWER!

Dear Sir,

The following suggestion to solve the PSO problem is on it's way to FIFA.

I suggest that the Dreaded PSO be 'brought-forward' to the end of normal time. This is how it would work:

End of normal time - no result i.e 0-0, 1-1, 2-2 whatever.

PENALTY SHOOT-OUT takes place until one team wins it - but they don't win the game - YET!

Now we go into extra time for the Golden Goal. If a team scores, they win - as they do now - end of story! This has never been the problem.

The problem has always arisen when extra time fails to produce a result. And this is

what my idea solves.

If, at the end of 120 minutes the scores remain level - the Team which won the Penalty Shoot Out 30 minutes earlier - is the winner!

Advantages:

☛ The result DOES NOT hinge on the penalty shoot out because the team which loses it still has thirty minutes in which to overturn their loss. (Gareth Southgate and Roberto Baggio are just two players who will support this idea I guarantee it).

☛ At the end of 120 minutes you have to have a result - sooner if a Golden Goal is scored.

☛ The final 30 minutes of extra time will guarantee to be

a cracker as the team which lost the Penalty Shoot Out - HAS TO SCORE. It's no good playing out for the PSO, because it's already been.

Anticipating the obvious argument against which is that, the team which won the PSO will defend - I say good luck to them because if they fail and concede just ONE goal - that goal will win the game for their opponents.

Only an idiot of a coach would take that risk. (Mind you there's plenty of those around).

Now, if somebody can top this idea - we have found the solution once and for all.

Henry Wiggier
North Narrabeen NSW

Hooray for Olympic and Bulldogs

Dear Sir,

The tie up between UTS Olympic and Sydney Bulldogs is great. Maybe at last Olympic can enjoy some stability within the Club's administration and board.

It would be good to think that Olympic will be playing at Belmore Oval for many years to come. All supporters of the game must welcome that.

I wonder if Olympic and this proud Rugby League club can ever have one lot of Directors. It would make sense in the long term.

When will the next move take place. Could Sydney United ever join with Penrith Panthers for instance? Will we see Wollongong City link up with Illawarra League Club to become BHP Steelers?

Could Randwick Rugby Union ever enter the

National Soccer League maybe with Sydney City Roosters (East's Rugby League Club Limited) and South Sydney Juniors licensed Club to become Sydney East Soccer?

The possibilities are endless. After all if Collingwood, arguably the most popular sports club in Australia, can put together an entry in the Ericsson Cup then what is to stop other major changes?

All this activity should maintain and improve the code's profile with generally uncommitted sportsfans. Will we have to battle to get in at games this Summer? Hope so.

John Spendler
West Ryde, NSW



Eagles you are champions?

Dear sir,

My main reason for writing is to congratulate the Parramatta Eagles. Since they were wrongly relegated from the National League, the Eagles have proved to their critics that they are still flying high.

The Eagles lost most of their big name players to National League clubs and then formed a whole new team of unknown players. These unknowns have now turned into heroes for their supporters.

The team, coached by Washington Gonzalez, which consists of: Michael Reda, Tony Danaskos, Christian Ortiz, Jason Holmes, Malcolm Meilak, David Harding, and David Huxley won the second round of the State League and then went on to win the Grand Final.

Not forgetting the Under 21 team who also won the Grand Final defeating Leichhardt.

The Eagles then moved to the Waratah Cup minus

Perdue, Reda and Souris. Youngsters Mauricio Islas, John Cannuli, Sasha Giesen, to the Grand Final but were defeated in extra time against Sydney United.

They proved they are a great team by getting to the Final and defeating National League teams UTS Olympic and Wollongong along the way.

The whole team has performed brilliantly but special mention goes to personal favourite players of my friend and myself, Mirko Jurij, Anthony Surjan, and Mark Reveley who have proved to be sensational throughout the season.

A message to the guys at Parramatta: 'You are all brilliant. You have made us supporters proud with all your hard efforts.

You deserve more credit than you are given."

"You guys are CHAMPIONS."

Karen Bonanno,
Wetherill Park NSW.

Gems on TV

SBS TV often run one off items about the World Game.

A recent gem was filmed about an amateur team in Victoria.

Coming up on Thursday of this week at 7.30pm on their INSIGHT series is 'Soccer Bloody Soccer'.

It is an examination by Ursula Malone of the so-called 'de-ethnicising' of the game in Australia.

It examines not only the present day but looks back

into the 1960s and then at 1977 and the formation of the National League.

The subject is controversial so it could be worth an hour of your time.



AUSTRALIAN & WORLD SOCCER WEEKLY?

Dear Sir,

I have been purchasing your newspaper for several years now, I haven't missed any issues during this time.

I find the paper very good, well set out and informative on Word Soccer.

The newspaper will shortly have its 800th edition. I have always thought that the newspaper should be called (renamed to) Australian and World Soccer Weekly.

There is already a British Soccer Weekly newspaper published. Perhaps you could have a poll from your readers to have it renamed to - AWSW from the 800th issue. Consideration should be given to the possible renaming as Soccer (Football) is the world game.

I look forward to seeing my letter published.

Nino Strangio,
Seven Hills, NSW.



IN AFFILIATION WITH THE
EASTERN SUBURBS SOCCER
FOOTBALL ASSOC.

★ ★ ★
Youth League Trials
Saturdays Oct 12, 19, 26

Nov 2

U/12, U/13 9AM U/14,

U/15 10.30AM

U/16 12 Noon

★ ★ ★

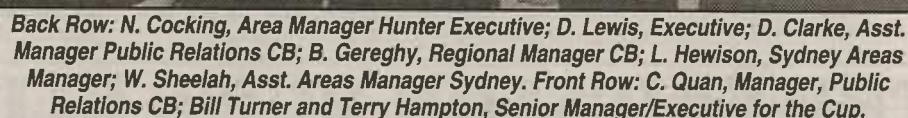
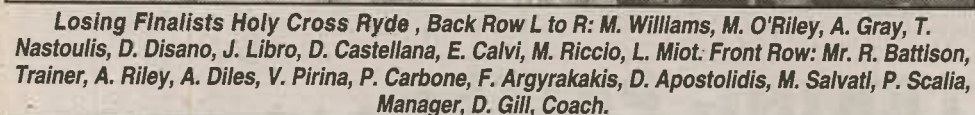
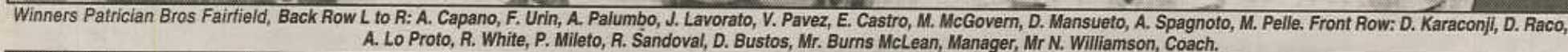
**Jellicoe Park, Park Road,
Pagewood**

★
Further details available next week
For inquiries contact: John Velthuys

018 271712

★ ★ ★ Finals Night ★ ★ ★

PHOTOGRAPHS BY LLOYD TURNER



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Reserves

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

The first goal scored was the winner and that came from Paul Lincoln just four minutes in.

☆ ★ ☆

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☆ ★ ☆

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A. Lo Proto of Patrician Bros, Fairfield holds aloft the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup.

THE ERICSSON CUP CELEBRATES HAPPY 21ST BIRTHDAY

BY GREG BLAKE

As the new summer season heralds in 21 years of national soccer we take a look at the 14 teams in the running for the title in the first of a three part pre-season feature.

Next week we begin an historical club-by-club analysis of the teams in the running for the Ericsson Cup in the season to come.

☆☆☆

OUR BEST IS YET TO COME

Who will join ABSW's list of Ericsson Cup greats this year?

The longest running media award in Australian soccer is back for an eighth successive year.

Once again ABSW, in conjunction with the Pascoe Vale Sports Scene, will search for the Ericsson Cup's very best player for the coming summer campaign.

And for the winner a magnificent commemorative trophy and a cheque for \$500 awaits. Each week ABSW's experts will be on deck at every venue to cover every game played in the national competition in 1995/96, with the now traditional 3-2-1 votes awarded to the best three players in action on the day.

The top vote winner at the end of the home and away campaign will take the booty, compliments of Melbourne's Pascoe Vale Sports Scene (413-415 Bell St., Pascoe Vale). As always, the PVSS people are thrilled to be back and working with ABSW in a bid to select the best of the

ERICSSON CUP ROLL OF HONOUR

1977-1983:

CHAMPION	CUP WINNER	TOP 4/5 CUP WINNER
1977 Sydney City	Brisbane City	No competition
1978 West Adelaide	Brisbane City	Sydney City
1979 Marconi Fairfield	Adelaide City	Sydney City
1980 Sydney City	Marconi Fairfield	Heidelberg Utd
1981 Sydney City	Brisbane Lions	No competition
1982 Sydney City	Apia Leichhardt	St George
1983 St George	UTS Olympic	No competition

1984-1986:

CHAMPION	CUP WINNER	DIVISION CHAMPION
1984 South Melbourne	Newcastle Rosebud	Nth-UTS Olympic
1985 Brunswick Utd	UTS Olympic	Sth-South Melbourne
1986 Adelaide City	Sydney City	Nth-Sydney city
		Sth-Brunswick Utd
		Nth-UTS Olympic
		Sth-Adelaide City

1987 only:

CHAMPION	CUP WINNER	TOP CUP WINNER
1987 Apia Leichhardt	Sydney United	St George

1988-1995/96:

CHAMPION	CUP WINNER	MINOR PREMIER
1988 Marconi Fairfield	Apia Leichhardt	Wollongong City
1989 Marconi Fairfield	Adelaide City	Marconi Fairfield
89-90 UTS Olympic	South Melbourne	Marconi Fairfield
90-91 South Melbourne	Parramatta Eagles	Melbourne Knights
91-92 Adelaide City	Adelaide City	Melbourne Knights
92-93 Marconi Fairfield	Heidelberg United	South Melbourne
93-94 Adelaide City	Parramatta Eagles	Melbourne Knights
94-95 Melbourne Knights	Melbourne Knights	Melbourne Knights
95-96 Melbourne Knights	South Melbourne	Marconi Fairfield

best. The PVSS has also sponsored the Victorian Premier League Player of the Year Award for the past six years.

"We thoroughly enjoy our involvement with the game at

the elite level through ABSW," said Pascoe Vale Sports Scene proprietor Maurice Raponi.

"As a former Premier League player I'm fully aware that it is a team game.

"But it is the individuals who make the game worth watching, and they also deserve some recognition.

"It's nice to think that awards like this one give the players that little extra

ALL TIME ERICSSON CUP LEAGUE LADDER:

(Teams in bold print to play in 1996/97)

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Marconi Fairfield (NSW)	529	249	129	152	928	635	525
South Melbourne (Vic)	529	248	128	153	826	610	624
Adelaide City (SA)	529	217	142	170	773	613	576
UTS Olympic (NSW)	503	200	140	163	703	609	540
Heidelberg United (VIC)	444	159	121	164	587	638	439
Melbourne Knights (Vic)	335	161	77	97	538	390	399
Sydney United (NSW)	335	149	90	96	456	385	388
West Adelaide (SA)	427	142	91	194	524	641	375
Apia Leichhardt (NSW)	368	135	102	131	458	459	372
Sydney City (NSW)	266	153	64	49	520	266	370
St George (NSW)	364	132	103	120	593	515	367
Wollongong City (NSW)	401	123	107	171	475	598	353
Preston (Vic)	342	119	100	123	433	415	338
Melbourne City JUST (Vic)	318	98	96	148	300	398	292
Brisbane Lions (Qld)	292	91	78	123	348	429	260
Canberra City/Arrows (ACT)	266	79	67	120	335	394	225
Brisbane City (Qld)	266	75	72	119	292	407	222
Newcastle United (NSW)	168	64	47	57	237	221	175
Parramatta Eagles (NSW)	182	60	52	70	207	228	172
Brun. Utd/Melb. Zebras (Vic)	172	62	37	73	207	242	161
Sunshine George Cross (Vic)	200	55	51	94	216	315	161
Blacktown City (NSW)	180	51	39	90	221	325	141
Brisbane Strikers (Qld)	135	48	31	56	179	191	127
Gippsland Falcons (Vic)	109	35	33	41	136	175	103
Newcastle Breakers (NSW)	111	26	29	56	131	192	81
Newcastle Rosebud (NSW)	72	24	14	34	91	130	62
Western Suburbs (NSW)	52	20	13	19	79	74	53
Green Gully (Vic)	72	17	18	37	74	102	52
Penrith (NSW)	50	12	16	22	53	76	40
Inter Monaro (ACT)	44	10	11	23	47	80	31
Canberra Cosmos (ACT)	33	8	11	14	48	61	27
Mooroolbark (Vic)	26	5	3	16	31	61	15
Wollongong Mac (NSW)	26	3	9	14	23	53	15
Canterbury (NSW)	22	2	7	13	17	41	11
Collingwood Warriors (Vic)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perth Glory (WA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*All-time league table includes league home-and-away games only (ie. no finals, top 4/5 or cup games), with bonus points awarded in 1979 and the three-points-per-win system adopted for the 1981, 1992/93, 1993/94 and 1995/96 seasons all converted to the conventional two-points-per-win system, along with the four-point system of 1994/95. Matches decided on penalty shoot-outs in 94/95 season shown as drawn games.

incentive to do well.

"We've always been pleased to work alongside ABSW and look forward to the season ahead."

Who will join John Filan, Josip Biskic, Damien Mori,

Darren Stewart, Steve Corica, Matt Horsley and Kris Trajanovski on the ABSW-PVSS honour roll in 1996/97?

Whatever the outcome, be sure to pick up your weekly

copy of ABSW to keep up with the progress of your favourite players in the voting for the Ericsson Cup's most prestigious media award.

☆☆☆

THE ERICSSON CUP'S GLITTERING PRIZES...

ERICSSON CUP MAJOR AWARDS HISTORY

JOHN WARREN MEDAL WINNERS:

☆☆☆☆☆

1977 Jim Rooney (Marconi Fairfield)	1978 Ken Boden (Newcastle KB United)
1979 Ivo Preskalo (Marconi Fairfield)	1980 Jim Hermiston (Brisbane Lions)
1981 Bobby Russell (Adelaide City)	1982 Peter Katholos (UTS Olympic)
1983 Joe Watson (Sydney City)	1984 Serg Melta (Adelaide City)
1985 Graham Honeyman (West Adelaide Sharks)	1986 Boby Russell (South Melbourne)
	1988 Paul Wade (South Melbourne)
1987 Andrew Zinni (Melbourne Zebras)	Frank Farina (Marconi Fairfield)*
1989 Frank Farina (Marconi Fairfield)*	89/90 Zeljko Adzic (Melbourne Knights)
90/91 Milan Ivanovic (Adelaide City)	91/92 Josip Biskic (Melbourne Knights)
92/93 Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)	93/94 Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights)
94/95 Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights)	95/96 Damian Mori (Adelaide City)

Until 1988 the best player award was voted on by referees, with a separate count for the player's player of the year beginning in 1986. An * indicates the player's player of the year in the years 1986 to 1988, when both players were awarded separate trophies. Since 1989 the player's player of the year — the John Warren Medal — has become the single most prestigious individual award of the season.

UNDER 21 PLAYER OF THE YEAR:

1977 John Kosmina (West Adelaide)	1978 Ian Souness (Sydney City)
1979 Eddie Krncevic (Marconi Fairfield)	1980 John Spanos (Sydney City)
1981 David Mitchell (Adelaide City)	1982 David Lowe (Newcastle KB Utd)
1983 Oscar Crino (South Melbourne)	1984 Tony Franken (Canberra City)
1985 Alan Hunter (Brisbane Lions)	1986 Ernie Tapai (Melbourne City)
1987 John Markovski (Sun. George Cross)	1988 Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)
1989 Paul Trimboli (South Melbourne)	89/90 Paul Okon (Marconi Fairfield)
90/91 Paul Okon (Marconi Fairfield)	91/92 Kevin Muscat (Heidelberg Utd)
92/93 Steve Corica (Marconi Fairfield)	93/94 Mark Viduka (Melb. Knights)
94/95 Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights)	95/96 Jim Tsekinis (West Adelaide)

LEAGUE TOP SCORERS:

1977 Dixie Deans (Adelaide City) — 16	1978 Ken Boden (Newcastle KB Utd) and Clive Eaton (Western Suburbs) — 14
1979 Mark Jankovic (Marconi Fairfield) — 18	1980 Gary Cole (Heidelberg United) — 21
1981 Gary Cole (Heidelberg United) — 16	1982 John Kosmina (Sydney City) — 23
1983 Doug Brown (South Melbourne) — 16	1984 Doug Brown (South Melbourne) — 22
1985 Charlie Egan (South Melbourne) — 21	1986 Graham Arnold (Sydney United) — 16
1987 Frank Farina (Marconi Fairfield) — 16	1988 Frank Farina (Marconi Fairfield) — 16
1989 Zlatko Nastevski (Marconi Fairfield) — 20	89/90 David Seal (Sydney United) — 15
90/91 David Seal (Marconi Fairfield) — 17	91/92 Tim Bredbury (UTS Olympic) and Kimon Taliadoros (Sth Melbourne) — 15
92/93 Francis Awaritefe (South Melbourne) — 18	93/94 Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights) — 17
94/95 Mark Viduka (Melbourne Knights) — 18	95/96 Damian Mori (Adelaide City) — 31

PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE ABSW/PASCOE VALE SPORTS SCENE ERICSSON CUP PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD:

89/90 John FILAN (St George)
90/91 Josip BISKIC (Melb Knights)
91/92 Damian MORI (MelbKnights)
92/93 Darren STEWART (Newcastle Breakers)
93/94 Steve CORICA (Marconi Fairfield)
94/95 Matt HORSLEY (Wollongong City)
95/96 Kris TRAJANOVSKI (UTS Olympic)

COACH OF THE YEAR:

1977 Rale Rasic (Marconi)	1978 Gerry Chaldi (Sydney City)
1979 Les Scheinflug (Marconi)	1980 John Margaritis (Sth Melbourne)
1981 Eddie Thomson (Sydney City)	1982 Frank Arok (St George)
1983 Frank Arok (St George)	1984 Eddie Thomson (Sydney City)
1985 Eddie Thomson (Sydney City)	1986 Drago Sekularic (Melb City)
1987 Rale Rasic (Apia)	1988 Brian Garvey (South Melbourne)
1989 Bertie Mariani (Marconi)	89/90 Bertie Mariani (Marconi)
90/91 Zoran Matic (Adelaide City)	91/92 DavidRatcliffe(Woll'gongWolves)
92/93 Jim Pyrgolios (South Melbourne)	93/94 Mirko Bazic (Melb Knights)
94/95 Zoran Matic (Adelaide City)	95/96 John Perin (Adelaide City)

All stats up to and including the end of the 1995/96 Ericsson Cup season. These statistics are copyrighted and cannot be reproduced in full or part in any form without the written permission of the author or this publication.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA PREVIEWS

by LANCE LIBRANDI

ADELAIDE CITY

Adelaide City, a team synonymous with success, will again be looking to appease its demanding fans and work towards another finals campaign. The sudden departure of previous coach John Perin has left the way open for another past City player, John Nyskohus, to step up to one of the most demanding positions in the league.

The team will be in a similar position to that of last season, with a squad based on youth and supported by reliable senior players. Nyskohus' assistant coach this season will be former star Joe Mullen, and a few personnel changes will see a slightly different Adelaide City front up in 1996/97.

Gone are rising stars Goran Lozanovski and Craig Foster, to Collingwood and Marconi respectively, along with disgruntled midfielder Carlo Talladira, also to the Warriors.



New signings include impressive striker Michael Musitano from Canberra and former player Michael Brooks from the SA Premier League.

Last season's newcomers Dino Mennillo, Brad Armour, Kostas Salapadis and Angie Costanzo will build on last year's exposure. Experienced players like John Gibson and Mark Yates will have more responsibility thrust upon them. Seasoned players like Tobin, Ivanovic and Mori will again provide the nucleus of the Adelaide City squad.

Overall, the club will rely on its proven formula, combining young talent and experience, and hope to carry on from last season where despite injuries and suspension, they got to within one game of the final. The squad is still a touch thin, and coach Nyskohus has said he is looking to add another player or two to his list.

WEST ADELAIDE

The upcoming season will be one of great expectation for West Adelaide Sharks. Last season saw them finish just out of the finals, and that is one area they are keen to remedy this time around. New coach Adrian Santrac takes over from the enigmatic Raul Blanco who has moved on to full-time Olyroo duties. Blanco moulded the current team and introduced his own latin flair, and Santrac will benefit from this preparation.

There have been few changes to last season's line-up, and this, coupled with the return to full fitness of players carrying injuries, indicates a level of stability this season not seen for some years. Star players like Jim Tsekenis, Cyrille Ndongokeller and Pablo Cardozo will don the Sharks kit again this season along with experienced players including Robbie Hooker, Ross Aloisi and Branko Milosevic. A



Canberra Cosmos.

Jose Iriate is now playing in Malaysia and Jim Keramidas has retired. Ayrton Andrioli, Scott Morrison and Athan Lekkas have all also parted company with the Sharks, as has goalkeeper Peter Blazincic who is now the Sydney United custodian. He is replaced in goals by the newly-signed Michael Harkness, a promising 28 year old from Scotland, who has played the last couple of seasons for Perth club Sorrento. On paper the squad appears to have the right blend of skill and experience.

Off the field, the club is negotiating with the local Thebarton council to develop a nearby ground into a complete Sports and Social Club. This will help consolidate their club and supporter base, and along with league achievements, go towards building another Adelaide powerhouse. Their fans will expect nothing less.



Angelo Costanzo: Will be expected to play a bigger role to build on last year's experience with the Zebras.



Branko Milosevic: This veteran's midfield skills will be a vital to any challenge the Sharks make for top positions this season.

Aussies Abroad . . .

By HENRY WIZGIER

Stan the "Man" Lazaridis gets the Star Performance for last week.

He played a key-role in West Ham's excellent 2-0 win over Nottingham Forest at the City Ground, supplying the cross from which Mark Bowen nodded in the Hammers opening goal.

His speed out on the left flank, caused the former European Champion's defence all sorts of problems.

Also in the East Londoners line-up was keeper Steve Mautone who had earlier made a disastrous debut against third division Barnet in the Coca Cola Cup.

However, Manager Harry Redknapp seems to have a lot of faith in the Aussie - given that he could have put one of the greatest goalies in the history of the game between the sticks - none other than Peter Shilton.

He was well rewarded for his belief in the former Canberra

custodian who played very well.

Both Carl Veart and Kevin Muscat joined in the fun at Elm Park Reading, where Crystal Palace bulged the 'Royals' net six times with the Aussies helping themselves to one each.

Andrew Bernal can share no blame, as he was out through suspension - or can he?

In Holland, Joe Bacak's Vitesse Arnhem gained a creditable 0-0 draw at another former European Champion, PSV Eindhoven.

They went there with the sole intention of avoiding defeat and left the Aussie up front on his own, yet he still managed to cause the Philips-owned millionaires all sorts of problems.

Arnhem sit in a handy fifth position.

NEC Breda have appointed Graham Arnold as team Captain while Tony Vidmar is playing brilliantly at left back. They currently sit just below halfway in

the Dutch First Division.

Paul Okon finally wore the sky-blue of Lazio in Serie A and what a place to make your debut - the San Siro. His opponents were Milan's present 'sleeping' giants Inter, but with new purchases Ivan Zamorano, Yuri Djorkaeff and Ciriaco Sforza as recent additions, they are everybody's dark horses to take out the Scudetto this seasons.

A quiet debut by all accounts.



Steve Mautone: Keeping out Peter Shilton at West Ham, he joins fellow Aussie Lazaridis in the team.

TRANSFER FEE WRANGLE

By DANE SKAFTE

CRAIG CARTER ON THE OUTER

With only a fortnight to the opening round of the Ericsson Cup the forgotten man from the Newcastle Breakers, former goalkeeper Craig Carter has been dropped from this year's competition.

"I was doing the pre-season training when (John) Kossie rang me and said I can come and sort my contract out", Carter said. "I was playing well enough but we were still getting beaten". Carter was told by Coach John Kosmina he was no longer required with the club this year, and not to be too upset because he was not the only one that would not be playing.

A disappointed Carter was told two months ago of his future. Carter stated that his family was very supportive of him. "Hopefully, I can still play at the higher standard in the Ericsson Cup if any clubs are interested", he said. "I am sure there are a few coaches who saw me perform for Newcastle last season".

26 year old Carter saved Newcastle Breakers on many occasions last season and was spoken very highly of by rival coaches. He was man of the match on several occasions.

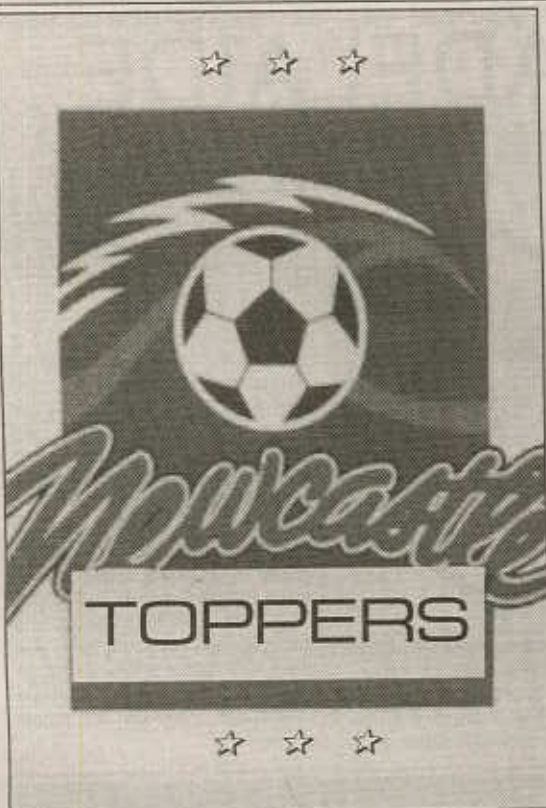
He stated that if no Sydney club signed him then he would play for a First Division club in the NNSW next season.

"I will be willing to sign with the Maitland Magpies. They have given me a good offer, but I just need a little time to think about it", Carter said.

☆☆☆



Craig Carter: His future in the code is in doubt.



Several of the Topper (formerly Newcastle) Breakers trialists have come to loggerheads with the club's committee over alleged policy changes.

It is believed that several of the players involved are from Adamstown Rosebuds and a First Division club in the NNSW.

It is alleged that no club will receive any transfer or compensation fee for any of the players due to the Breakers current financial circum-

stances.

ABSW understands that if any local club puts a transfer fee on these players and the Breakers do not come to the party, the players are expected to pay the transfer themselves by having it deducted from the players wages at the end of the season.

It is hoped that some mutual agreement could be reached between both parties so that the local clubs can receive some monetary recognition.

NEWCASTLE VINTAGE REDS

The sixth Air New Zealand 'Golden Oldies World Soccer Festival' will be played in Melbourne from 13th to 20th October 1996.

Previous festivals have attracted hundreds of players and supporters from around the world including teams from Sweden, Western Samoa, South America, New Zealand as well as Australia.

The Newcastle Vintage Reds were formed in 1986 comprising of past Wallsend Soccer Club players and other keen sportsmen.

This will be their third festival. Previously they have also been to Surfers Paradise in 1987 and exotic Hawaii in 1994.

Golden Oldies soccer is especially for players aged 35 and over. It provides enjoyment and involvement and just the right amount of exercise.

☆☆☆



NEWCASTLE VINTAGE REDS: Back Row: Graham Kemp, John Murphy, Fred Pawlak, Bob Frame, Bill Gray, Ray Parkes, Eric Hargy
Front Row: Graeme Weber, Stan Klaos, Lester Forrester, Allan Russell.

ILLAWARRA PREMIER LEAGUE

BY PHIL MURPHY

Lysaghts are on target for the Illawarra grand slam after winning the Bampton Cup final at McLennan Park on Friday night.

They beat Wollongong Olympic 2-1 in a hard-fought final, having already clinched the premier league championship.

Their final mission will be the league Grand Final but they must first eliminate Olympic when the teams meet again on Sunday.

Lysaghts always looked to have the upper hand in the Cup Final and Olympic rarely troubled Lysaghts goalkeeper Warwick Young.

Back in the Lysaghts side after a two-game suspension, midfielder Noel Spencer was named man of the match. He was involved in the leadup to the first goal along with his brother, Jason.

The ball finally went to striker Steve Krishna who scored with a header when goalkeeper Paul Piacentini completely misjudged the flight of the ball.

George Antoniou netted with a great free kick to put Olympic level but John Danzo got in behind the Olympic defence to score the winner off a Mike Hollifield cross.

Lysaghts also won the youth Cup, beating Northern United 3-1 in the early game.

When Lysaghts and Olympic meet in their league final this weekend, Olympic will be without their captain Paul McGarry.

The tough fullback is suspended after picking up a yellow card on Friday night.

Coach John Fleming faces a worrying week selecting a team with one or two players carrying injuries.

There is a chance Fleming could name himself in the lineup at sweeper.

Underdogs Kemblawarra beat Wollongong White Eagles 2-1 after extra time in the First Division Grand Final at Memorial Park on Saturday.

Former St George and Wollongong City defender David Green scored a goal for both teams.

It was Green who gave the Eagles the lead and he then deflected a cross into his own goal to make it 1-1.

That was the score after 90 minutes and it was left to replacement Chris Georgievski to grab the winner.

University came up with their first success in many years when they beat Pictou 2-0 in the youth grade Grand Final.

Eric Thompson coached Balgownie to a Premier League Grand Final win five years ago.

Amazingly, before the first game had been played the following season he had been forced away from the club by "player power." After four seasons with Cringila, Thompson has surprised many people by returning to Balgownie.

He confirmed last week that he had re-joined his old club.

Thompson said it had been hard leaving Cringila because he had experienced success at Crehan Park.

"I made many friends there but it was time for a change," he said.

"I am sure Cringila will benefit from the change just as I will.

"At Balgownie, there are some very good young players and I see the club as a challenge."

Disappointing that leading referee Rex Leighton hasn't yet been appointed to one of the end-of-season games. Leighton has announced his retirement after a distinguished career.

As well as being one of the ISA's top whistlers for many years, he has been involved with the education of young referees.

It was generally thought he would get either the Bert Bampton Cup final or the first division Grand Final at the weekend.

He could still get this weekend's premier league final between Wollongong Olympic and Lysaghts.

Stephen Jaros is the tip to control Sunday week's Premier League Grand Final.

Wollongong Olympic striker Manny Mavridis was shattered when he was unable to play in Friday night's Bampton Cup final against Wollongong Olympic.

The game would have been his 250th appearance for the club.

However, he suffered an ankle injury in the league semi-final against Bulli and is out for the rest of the season.



NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

COSMOS OVERCOME GUTSY RYDE IN 1ST DIVISION GRAND FINAL

SYDNEY COSMOS 1 RYDE CITY 0

by PAUL GOODWIN

Sydney Cosmos stole the win, but Ryde City stole the hearts of the crowd at the Gabbie Stadium in an exhilarating, lone goal Grand Final on Saturday.

The Premiers, Sydney Cosmos, made the early running and Ryde keeper Andrew Prentice was at full stretch on many first half occasions.

Ryde appeared to be playing a game of containment for the first twenty or so minutes of a game played in light drizzle and as the game wore on they stepped up the momentum as the rain intensified.

Darren Ioacca, who was to be the man who later got all the glory, was in the thick of the action and had a tense tussle with Ryde defender John Flack for most of the game, in which honours were evenly split.

Ioacca squeezed the ball inches wide of the left post after a perfect diagonal pass had put him into a scoring position inside the box in the 10th minute.

Grant Lee, a minute later, was equally off target after being put into space and then giving two defenders the go-by, following Gary Spivac's solid cross.

Ryde flanker, Flack, sent his shot sailing over the bar in the 14th from Alf Cirino's left sided defence-eluding pass, while Allan Welse put another wide from 8 yards after Alan Lindley had done the spade work three minutes later.

The misses began to mount up and Ryde would later rue these lost opportunities, though it must be said that Cosmos 'keeper Peter Gunning usually looked to have his goal well covered.

Alf Cirino looked certain to open the scoring in the 35th



when he arrived at the far post to connect with a header from a ball floated over by Lindley from the left byline, after good work by Jeff Kelly.

It looked to be going in, but instead the ball spun agonisingly away from goal and past the right hand upright.

Ryde took the game to Cosmos right from the restart and dominated for long periods, with many chances being created.

A ball laid back by John McKie to Lindley at the far post was driven firmly, but just inches past the right post, with Gunning already committed on the left.

This continued Ryde's shocking showings in front of goal where the Cosmos defence was constantly exposed, only to be let off the hook by poor finishing.

Apart from two Ioacca moves in the 54th and 58th minutes Cosmos was defending grimly with Ryde's shaven-headed Jon Flack creating havoc with incisive

runs and a series of smart crosses.

McKie was unlucky with a header in the 64th from just such a cross from the right and ten minutes later clipped the ball narrowly over the bar after a left sided cross played in by the same player.

Lindley also made a strong run on the left and cut in before letting fly with a shot which Gunning covered well at close range in the 78th.

Lindley was then denied a goal in the 84th when his sharp shot was blocked by a defender near the line after Cirino had got the better of Gerry Gomez on the right byline and cut the ball back to the centre.

Cosmos made one of their rare second half sorties in the 86th minute and as often happens in these cases they wrapped up the game in an instant.

Latvian international, Vadim Mikoutsky, now on loan to Wollongong City for an A-League campaign, had come on as a substitute and

provided the opening for his Cosmos side.

As a result of the good lead up work Rudi Jerkovic had a firm shot which proved too hot for Prentice to hold onto and when the ball ran loose Darren Ioacca took his time to make enough space for a shot. He found the net with a polished finish from 12 yards out, to sink Ryde's hopes.

Ioacca also angled the ball across the face of the goal and hit the post in the process,

moments later, as the game did appear to have slipped completely from Ryde's grasp.

Cosmos won because they took the chance when it came, while the imposing presence of Peter Gunning and some below-par finishing by Ryde prevented their opponents from getting anything out of the game other than a loser's medal.

☆☆☆

UNDER 21 RYDE CITY 1 FAIRFIELD BULLS 0

Ryd City the Under 21 Premiers completed the double when they accounted for a lively Fairfield Bulls 1-0.

The Bulls were without their speedy striker, the suspended Matthew Borg, but gave plenty as they restricted the Ryde side to some nervous, counter attacking moves in the second half.

Ryde had gained the lead in the 25th minute through a Tim Gledhill shot from the left hand edge of the box and looked in command, but though attacking with some flair in the second half had a few goalmouth escapes, their keeper, twice tipping headers onto the crossbar before the ball was scrambled clear.

UNDER 18 HILLS UNITED 5 SYDNEY COSMOS 4

After surrendering a 4-1 half time advantage and dragged back to 4-4 1st Division Runners-Up Hills United finally got the reward they had been seeking when Ashley Vale came up with a breathtaking stoppage-time winner against a plucky Sydney Cosmos.

Raynor Ethom had given Hills an early lead and then provided a lovely chipped cross from which David Aiossa headed in the second.

A free kick which slipped through the 'keeper's hands taken by Mark Hagger brought a third and another from Aiossa saw Hills getting on with the job in fine style.

Cosmos displayed their fighting qualities and pushed Hills hard, Ashley Vale being caught out at the back for the fourth and equalising goal as the inner-Sydney side staged an epic comeback effort.

Leon Visitaris grabbed two goals, while Alex Yefef and Peter Poulos got the others in what turned into a real cliff hanger.

Vale redeemed himself for his slack marking by starting a move deep in his own half which led to an excellent build up for the winner.

Vale hammered the ball past the goalie to put the issue beyond doubt as the game looked set to move into the golden goal stage.

1ST DIVISION PLAYER RATINGS

SYDNEY COSMOS

Gunning: Always well positioned. Completely in control of the goal area. (8)

Gomez: Played as a freeback. His vast playing experience was a great asset. Looked dangerous coming forward. (8)

Spivac: A nuggety player who defended well and gave Cosmos width in attack. (7)

Richardson: Took some time to find his feet on the slippery, well grassed surface. Settled into a spoiling routine, denying Ryde with well timed tackles. (7)

Blake: Performed his tasks adequately. A quiet achiever. (7)

McCullough: Another well seasoned performer who stamped his class on the midfield to good effect. (7)

Kalogeras: Stood out as a constant menace to Ryde. His close ball control was a delight. Big influence in the game. (8)

Jerkovic: Never given much room to move. Found it hard to achieve much. (6)

Ioacca: Put in plenty of shots on goal. His aerial power gave Ryde a number of anxious moments. Scored the only goal of the game. (8)

Dounis: Was restricted by tight Ryde marking. Eventually substituted in 60th minute. (6)

Lee: Operating on the right, found it difficult at times to stay upright. Got over some good centres. (7)

Mikoutsky (Sub): On for last 30 minutes but never seemed to get into game. (5)

RYDE CITY

Prentice: Did his job effectively. However when he had to catch the ball found it a challenge. (7)

Viloo: Struggled in the conditions and eventually replaced soon after half time. (5)

Flack: Extremely active both in defence and up both flanks. A thorn in Cosmos side. Outstanding game. (9)

Cowley: Helped to keep Cosmos forwards outside danger area. Good positional play. (7)

Duval: His height and weight were well used at the centre of Ryde's defence. Nothing more could have been asked of him. (8)

Miranda: Neat play from this experienced midfielder. Ran himself into the ground. (7)

Welsh: Did his job well, managing to get in shots and headers. (7)

Kelly: Supplied his strikers with quality ball and was always on hand when needed back in defence. (7)

McKie: Looked dangerous as he got in a number of shots. Eventually replaced with 10 minutes to go. (7)

Lindley: Proved dangerous in and around the penalty area. Got in Ryde's best shot of the afternoon which brought the crowd to its feet. (8)

Cirino: Had the misfortune to miss an open goal. His inexperience was probably his undoing. (6)

Glasscock (Sub): On for 35 minutes and showed some smart touches. (6)

Stratford (Sub): Only had 10 minutes and had no time to show his ability. No rating.

Presentation Night in NSW

by BOB BROOKS

Grant Bard of Sutherland comfortably won the Federation Best and Fairest Gold Medal for 1996.

His club was presented with the Super League Premier trophy. This was awarded to the Sharks for being the leading club over the two halves of the season. Sutherland's Peter Terry won the Coach of the Year.

Simon Micallef a talented whistler took out the Referee of the Year trophy.

The first trophy of the night was the Fair Play Award in Super League which went to Illawarra Lions.

ABSW columnist Janene Mar was the proud, and dumbfounded, recipient of the Keith Gilmore Award for journalistic service to the Federation.

Other awards went to Steve

Tolios of Canterbury Marrickville as Players Player of the Year and Kristy Mehar who was presented with the Womens Best and Fairest trophy.

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Grant Bard: Awarded the Federation Best and Fairest Gold Medal for 1996.

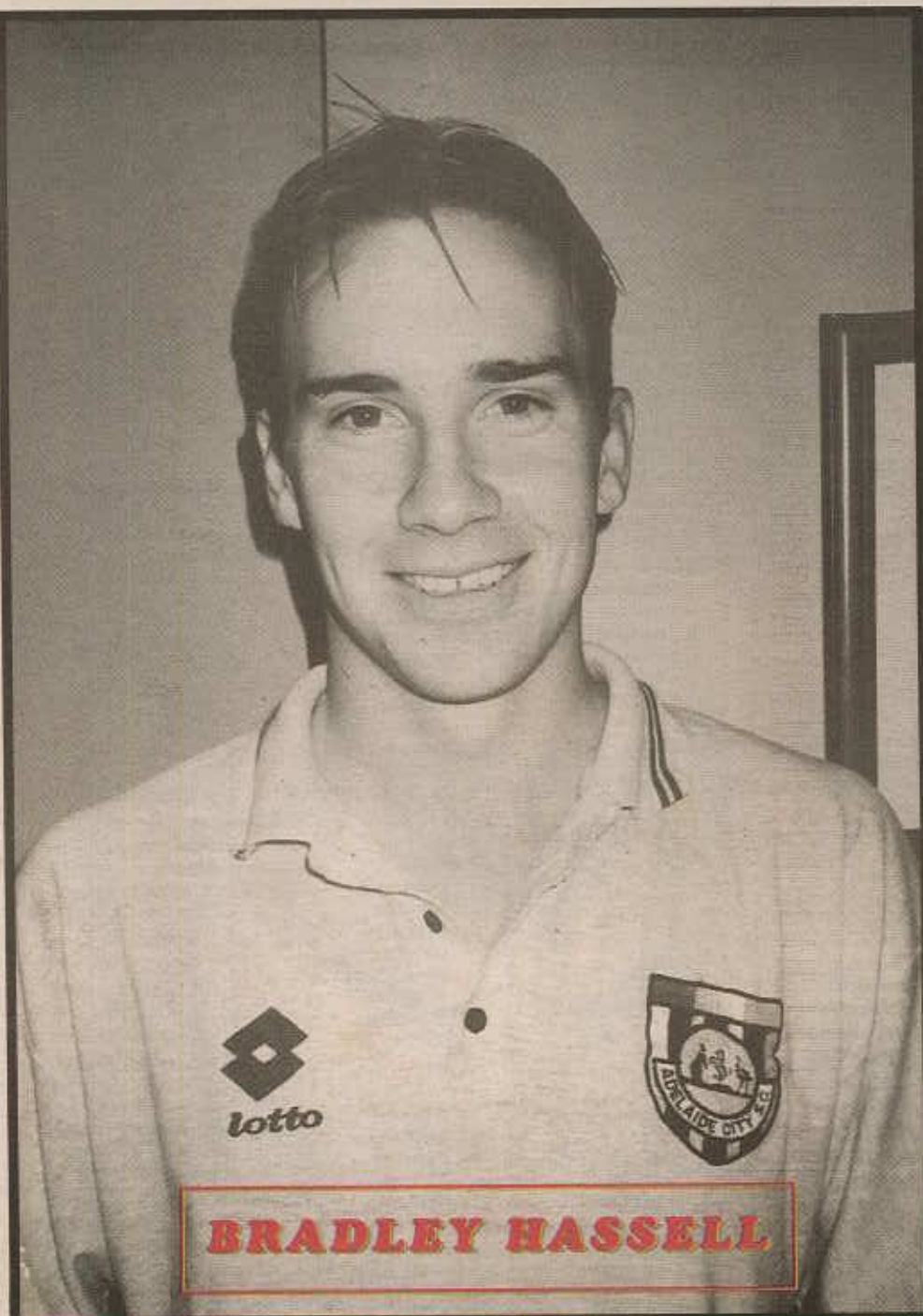


Australian & British
SOCCER WEEKLY



Thailand Celebrate

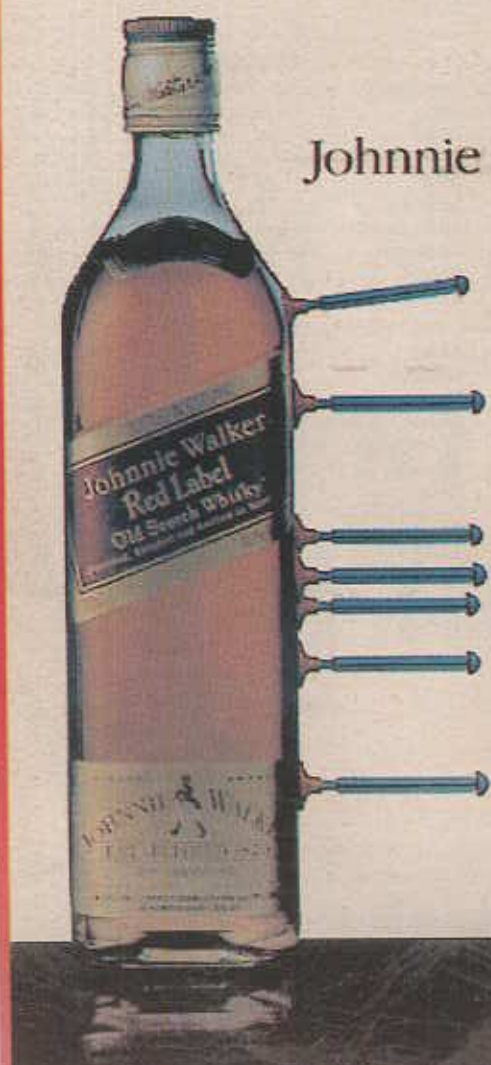
22 AIC NEWS



BRADLEY HASSELL



JASON PETKOVIC



Johnnie Walker... & Sons,

Double Trouble.



LBCSM UOW 12108

WORLD RESULTS & TABLES

Belgium First Division

Lommel	1	Lierse	1
Mouscron	1	Harelbeke	0
Anderlecht	2	Ghent	1
Cercle Brugge	0	Antwerp	1
Ekeren	0	Molenbeek	0
Mechelen	0	Genk	0
Lokeren	1	Club Brugge	1
Charleroi	1	Standard Liege	2

Table

Standard Liege	7	5	0	2	11	8	15
Anderlecht	7	4	3	0	17	4	15
Club Brugge	7	4	3	0	17	6	15
Mouscron	7	4	3	0	14	8	15
Ghent	7	3	2	2	14	13	11
Antwerp	7	3	1	3	9	14	10
Lokeren	7	2	3	2	11	8	9
Genk	7	2	3	2	8	9	9
Lommel	7	2	3	2	10	13	9
Aalst	6	2	2	2	7	7	8
Lierse	7	1	5	1	10	7	8
Mechelen	7	1	5	1	11	11	8
Charleroi	7	2	1	4	10	12	7
Molenbeek	7	1	4	2	5	8	7
Ekeren	7	1	2	4	7	11	5
Harelbeke	7	1	2	4	7	11	5
Sint Truiden	6	1	1	4	7	15	4
Cercle Brugge	7	0	3	4	6	16	3

France First Division

Paris-SG	8	6	2	0	12	0	20
Bastia	8	5	2	1	14	7	17
Bordeaux	8	4	4	0	10	3	16
Monaco	8	4	3	1	14	6	15
Metz	8	4	3	1	9	5	15
Lyon	8	3	4	1	12	8	13
Auxerre	8	3	4	1	8	4	13
Lens	8	4	1	3	10	13	13
Marseille	8	3	3	2	10	8	12
Guingamp	8	3	3	2	6	5	12
Lille	8	3	3	2	9	10	12
Rennes	8	3	2	3	9	10	11
Cannes	8	3	2	3	6	8	11
Le Havre	8	2	2	4	8	9	8
Montpellier	8	1	4	3	7	11	7
Strasbourg	8	2	1	5	6	13	7
Caen	8	0	4	4	4	12	4
Nantes	8	0	3	5	7	14	3
Nice	8	0	2	6	6	13	2
Nancy	8	0	2	6	2	10	2

Germany Bundesliga

Bochum	3	Hamburg	1
St Pauli	0	Cologne	1
B Moenchengladbach	5	Borussia Dortmund	1
VfB Stuttgart	0	F Duesseldorf	2
Arminia Bielefeld	0	Schalke	1
Bayern Munich	1	Karlsruhe	0

Table

Bayern Munich	7	5	2	0	14	5	17
VfB Stuttgart	7	5	1	1	17	4	16
Cologne	7	4	1	2	11	7	13
B Dortmund	7	4	1	2	15	12	13
B Leverkusen	6	4	0	2	13	8	12
Bochum	7	3	3	1	11	10	12
Werder Bremen	7	3	1	3	15	10	10
Karlsruhe	7	3	1	3	11	9	10
1860 Munich	7	3	1	3	11	10	10
Schalke	7	2	4	1	8	10	10
F Duesseldorf	7	3	1	3	5	10	10
Hamburg	7	3	0	4	11	13	9
B M'gladbach	7	2	2	3	9	9	8
Hansa Rostock	7	2	2	3	9	9	8
St Pauli	7	1	2	4	7	17	5
Duisburg	7	1	1	5	5	13	4
Arminia Bielefeld	7	0	3	4	3	7	3
Freiburg	6	1	0	5	7	19	3

Holland First Division

Ajax Amsterdam	1	G Doetinchem	1
Groningen	1	RKC Waalwijk	2
AZ Alkmaar	3	Utrecht	1
Fortuna Sittard	1	Volendam	1
NAC Breda	0	Roda JC Kerkrade	1
Willem II Tilburg	1	Twente Enschede	2
Sparta Rotterdam	0	F Rotterdam	1
PSV Eindhoven	0	Vitesse Arnhem	0
Heerenveen	1	NEC Nijmegen	1

Table

F Rotterdam	7	6	1	0	14	3	19
PSV Eindhoven	7	5	1	1	21	5	16
Twente Enschede	7	4	2	1	9	5	14
Roda JC Kerkrade	7	3	4	0	9	3	13
Heerenveen	7	3	2	2	14	9	11
G Doetinchem	7	3	2	2	12	8	11
Ajax Amsterdam	7	3	2	2	5	5	11
NAC Breda	7	3	1	3	4	8	10
Vitesse Arnhem	6	2	3	1	6	4	9
NEC Nijmegen	7	2	3	2	9	12	9
Fortuna Sittard	7	2	2	3	6	10	8
RKC Waalwijk	6	2	1	3	9	13	7
AZ Alkmaar	7	2	1	4	5	7	7
Utrecht	7	1	3	3	8	10	6
Sparta Rotterdam	7	1	2	4	5	9	5
Volendam	7	1	2	4	6	14	5
Willem II Tilburg	7	1	1	5	6	13	4
Groningen	7	0	3	4	6	16	3

Italy Serie A

Bologna	1	Milan	2
Cagliari	1	Udinese	2
Fiorentina	2	Verona	0
Inter	1	Lazio	1

Napoli	1	Placenza	1
Parma	3	Reggiana	2
Perugia	1	Juventus	2
Roma	1	Sampdoria	4
Vicenza	4	Atalanta	1

Table

Parma	3	2	1	0	6	27
Juventus	3	2	1	0	5	7
Inter	3	2	1	0	3	7
Vicenza	3	2	0	1	8	5
Milan	3	2	0	1	7	4
Sampdoria	3	2	0	1	6	3
Bologna	3	2	0	1	4	2
Roma	3	2	0	1	6	5
Udinese	3	2	0	1	3	2
Fiorentina	3	1	1	1	6	4
Napoli	3	1	1	1	2	4
Cagliari	3	1	0	2	4	4
Perugia	3	1	0	2	2	3
Placenza	3	0	2	1	2	4
Reggiana	3	0	1	2	3	5
Lazio	3	0	1	2	1	3
Atalanta	3	0	1	2	3	8
Verona	3	0	0	3	1	8

Serie B

Brescia	1	Lucchese	0
Cast. Sang	2	Cremonese	0
Chievo	0	Cesena	0
Genoa	3	Cosenza	0
Lecce	2	Foggia	1
Padova	2	Venezia	1
Ravenna	1	Empoli	1
Reggina	2	Pescara	3
Salernitana	0	Palermo	0

Table

Lecce	3	3	0	0	7	2	9
Pescara	3	2	1	0	5	3	7
Cast. Sang	3	2	0	1	3	2	6
Padova	3	2	0	1	3	4	6
Chievo	3	1	2	0	1	0	5
Genoa	3	1	1	1	5	3	4
Empoli	3	1	1	1	3	2	4
Cesena	3	1	1	1	3	2	4
Torino	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Ravenna	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Salernitana	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Brescia	3	1	1	1	2	3	4
Bari	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Palermo	3	0	3	0	1	1	3
Foggia	3	1	0	2	3	4	3
Cremonese	3	1	0	2	2	4	3
Cosenza	3	1	0	2	1	4	3
Lucchese	3	0	2	1	1	2	2
Venezia	3	0	1	2	3	5	1
Reggina	3	0	0	3	4	8	0

Portugal First Division

Uniao Leiria	0	Benfica	2
Setubal	1	Braga	1
Gil Vicente	1	Belenenses	2
Espinho	1	Farense	0
Estrela Amadora	1	Leca	0
Salgueiros	0	Porto	1
Chaves	0	Guimaraes	0
Boavista	2	Rio Ave	0
Sporting	3	Maritimo	0

Table

Benfica	4	3	1	0	11	2	10
Porto	4	3	1	0	8	2	10
Sporting	4	3	1	0	10	4	10
Braga	4	2	2	0	9	4	8
Farense	4	2	1	1	3	1	7
Guimaraes	4	2	1	1	7	6	7
Espinho	4	2	1	1	4	3	7
Leca	4	2	0	2	6	3	6
Boavista	4	2	0	2	6	6	6
Maritimo	4	1	2	1	5	6	5
Chaves	4	1	2	1	4	5	5
Setubal	4	1	2	1	8	5	5
Estrela Amadora	4	1	1	2	1	3	4
Belenenses	4	1	1	2	5	8	4
Rio Ave	4	0	2	2	4	7	2
Salgueiros	4	0	2	2	2	5	2
Gil Vicente	4	0	0	4	4	13	0
Uniao Leiria	4	0	0	4	0	11	0

Spain First Division

Sporting Gijon	2	Zaragoza	0
Celta Vigo	0	Real Betis	2
Deportivo Coruna	4	Hercules	0
Real Madrid	1	Kayo Vallecano	0
Extremadura	0	Oviedo	2
Barcelona	3	Real Sociedad	2
Sevilla	1	Compostela	1

England

Arsenal	2	Sunderland	0
Chelsea	1	Nottingham Forest	1
Coventry	0	Blackburn	0
Derby	0	Wimbledon	2
Everton	2	Sheffield Wednesday	0
Leicester	1	Leeds	0
Southampton	4	Middlesbrough	0

Division 1

Barnsley	1	Grimsby	3
Birmingham	0	Queen's Park Rangers	0
Bolton	1	Stoke	1
Charlton	1	Oldham	0
Crystal Palace	6	Southend	1
Huddersfield	1	Reading	0
Norwich	1	Tranmere	1

Oxford	2	Portsmouth	0
Sheffield United	2	Manchester City	0
West Bromwich	0	Ipswich	0
Swindon	1	Wolverhampton	2

Division 2

Brentford	3	York	3
Bristol Rovers	2	Chesterfield	0
Burnley	2	Bristol City	3
Crewe	3	Plymouth	0
Luton	1	Blackpool	0
Notts County	0	Wrexham	0
Peterborough	6	Wycombe	3
Preston	2	Millwall	1
Rotherham	1	Bournemouth	0
Shrewsbury	1	Watford	0
Stockport	2	Gillingham	1
Walsall	3	Bury	1

Division 3

Colchester	2	Doncaster	2
Darlington	0	Fulham	2
Exeter	0	Cambridge	1
Hartlepool	2	Chester	0
Lincoln	2	Cardiff	0
Mansfield	3	Hereford	1
Northampton	3	Brighton	0
Rochdale	1	Leyton Orient	0
Scarborough	3	Wigan	1
Scunthorpe	1	Barnet	2
Swansea	0	Hull	0
Torquay	1	Carlisle	2

Table

Liverpool	7	5	2	0	16	5
Arsenal	8	5	2	1	17	8
Wimbledon	8	5	0	3	12	7
Newcastle	7	5	0	2	10	7
Manchester United	7	3	4	0	16	6
Chelsea	8	3	4	1	11	10
Sheffield Wed	8	4	1	3	9	11
Aston Villa	7	3	3	1	8	5
Middlesbrough	8	3	2	3	14	13
Leicester	8	3	2	3	6	9
Derby	8	2	4	2	8	10
Sunderland	8	2	3	3	6	6
Everton	8	2	3	3	8	10
Tottenham	7	2	2	3	6	6
West Ham	7	2	2	3	6	10
Nottingham Forest	8	1	4	3	9	14
Leeds	8	2	1	5	6	13
Southampton	8	1	2	5	10	12
Coventry	8	1	2	5	3	13
Blackburn	8	0	3	5	5	11

Inter - Lazio

Inter: Pagliuca, Angiola, Pistone, Ince, Paganin, Fressi, Zanetti, Sforza, Zamorano (Branca 75), Djorkaeff, Ganz (Winter 58).

Lazio: Mucchegiani, Negro, Pavali (Gottardi 54), Fuser, Nesta, Chariot, Rumbaudi, Okon (Burzio 82), Casiraghi (Protti 63), Nedved, Signori.

Scorers: Lazio - Signori 33, Inter - Angiola 39.

★ ★ ★ FIORENTINA - VERONA

Fiorentina: Toldo, Carnasciali, Fincano, Amoroso, Pusceddu, Cois (Piacentini 70), Rui Costa (Bigica 75), Schwarz, Robbiati (Orlando 65), Batistuta, Oliveira.

Verona: Gregori (Guardalben 53), Fattori, Paganin, Baroni, Vanoli, Bacci, Manetti, Giunta, Orlandini (Maniero 55), De Vitis, Binotto.

Scorers: Fiorentina - Robbiati 6, Batistuta 49 (penalty).

★ ★ ★ PERUGIA - JUVENTUS

Perugia: Kocic, Castellini, Dicara, Matrecoano, Di Chiara, Kreek, Giunti, Allegri, Gaudieri (Gottini 57), Negri, Rapaje (Pizzi 55).

Juventus: Peruzzi, Pocrini (Torricelli 66) Ferrara, Montero, G. Pessotto, A. Conte (Jugovic 70), Zidane, Deschamps, Boksic, Amoroso (Padovano 64) Del Piero.

Scorers: Juventus - Padovano 84, Del Piero 89, Perugia - Negri 94.

★ ★ ★ CAGLIARI - UDINESE

Cagliari: Pascolo, Pancaro, Vega, Grassadonia, Bettarini, Sanna (Tinkler 65), Lonstrup (Muzzi 60), O'Neill, Bisoli, Romero, Silva (Cozza 72).

Udinese: Battistini, Bertotto, Pierini, Bin, Sergio, Helveg, Rossitto, Desideri, Orlando, Bierhoff, Poggi (Amoroso 80).

Scorers: Udinese - Poggi 9, Bierhoff 23, Cagliari - O'Neill 19.

★ ★ ★ BOLOGNA - MILAN

Bologna: Antonioni, Tarozzi, Torrisi, De Marchi, Paramatti, Magoni (Nervo 77), Bergamo, Marocchi, Fontolan (Bresciani 60), Kolyvanov, Andersson.

Milan: Rossi, Pannucci, Costacurta, Vierchowod (Davids 46), Maldini, Savicevic (Baggio 84), Albertini, Desailly, Boban, Weah, Simone (Ambrosini 75).

Scorers: Milan - Simone 47, Weah 61, Bologna - Kolyvanov 52 (penalty).

★ ★ ★ VICENZA - ATALANTA

Vicenza: Mondini, Mendez, Soigia (Sartor 65), Lopez, Begetto, D'Ignazio, Di Carlo, Masi, Viviani, Murgita, Cornacchini.

Atalanta: Micillo, Bonacina, Sottil, Herrera, Rossini, Luppi, Foglio, Fortunato, Gallo, Lentini, Inzaghi.

Scorers: Vicenza - Viviani 46, Atalanta - Inzaghi 41 (penalty), Beghetto 48, 70, D'Ignazio 86.

★ ★ ★ NAPOLI - PIACENZA

Napoli: Tagliapietra, Cruz, Milanesi, Ayala, Colonnese, Turrini, Beto (Aglieiti 71), Altomare, Longo, Caio (Esposito 60), Caccia.

Piacenza: Taibi, Lucchi, Pari, M. Conte (Moretti 65), Tramezzani, Di Francesco, Scienza, Pin, Valoti (Tentoni 35), Luiso (Delli Carri 70), Piovani.

Scorers: Napoli - Caccia 31, Piacenza - Luiso 68.



Paul Okon: Made his Serie A debut for Lazio against Inter.

GOLDEN GOAL TO COUNT DOUBLE?

A newly-introduced sudden-death "golden goal" concept is to be submitted to UEFA by the Football Association of Ireland. Instead they suggest the first goal scored in extra-time should be worth double in the event of a draw, so the team scoring first in extra-time would win. If there were no goals the match would go to penalties.

Des Casey, Ireland's representative on UEFA's executive committee, said at UEFA's Euro 96 Round Table, held last week in London, the system could be one way of reducing the risk of the unpopular penalty shoot-out in major competitions.

The system of the sudden-death "golden goal" winner, introduced for the first time in a UEFA tournament in June's European Championship finals, was unpopular, Casey

said. "The concept of the golden goal shoot-out to decide matches should not be discarded but looked at again," he said. "One idea is that the first goal scored in extra-time should count as double, that extra-time should be played for the full 30 minutes and that if the teams finish level at 1-1, for example, the team that scored first wins because their goal counts as double."

"It is the same principle as the away-goals rule already used in European club matches and means the team falling behind has to score twice to win."

"This system could help to ease the fear of the match being over as soon as a goal is scored."

Casey said the Irish federation would formally present the proposal to UEFA's executive board as soon as possible.

Terry Venables, whose

England team were eliminated in a penalty shoot-out in the European Championship semi-finals by Germany, backed the idea.

"We have reached the stage where we have to start experimenting with new ideas," he said. "It is no longer good enough for us all to sit back and congratulate ourselves politely for a job well done."

"I am all in favour of this and any other idea which encourages coaches to play to win."

The round-table discussion featured UEFA president Lennart Johansson, UEFA secretary-general Gerhard Aigner and Euro 96 organising committee chairman Egidius Braun.

Johansson said he welcomed Casey's proposal, which would be examined by UEFA in due course.



Terry Venables: In favour of changes which encourage winning play.

EUROPE - UEFA CUP, 1ST RD., 2ND LEG

Roda JC Kerkrade (Neth)	2	Ferencvaros won 5-3 on aggregate.	2	Aberdeen (Scot)	3	(Agg 5-0), Sparta Prague (Czech Rep.)	1
Schalke (Ger)	2	Halmstad (Swe)	2	Aberdeen won 6-4 on aggregate.	2	Sturm Graz (Aust)	1
Schalke won 5-2 on aggregate.		Newcastle	1	Neuchatel Xamax (Swi)	2	(Agg 3-3).	
National Bucharest (Rom)	2	Newcastle won 5-2 on aggregate.	1	Dynamo Kiev (Ukr)	1	Spart Prague win on away goals rule.	
Chornomorets Odessa (Ukr)	0	Silkeborg (Den)	1	(1-0)		Brann (Nor)	4
National won 2-0 on aggregate.		Spartak Moscow (Rus)	2	Neuchatel won 2-1 on aggregate.		Cercle Brugge (Belg)	0
Dynamo Tbilisi (Georgia)	1	Spartak won 5-3 on aggregate.		Sporting Lisbon (Por)	1	(Agg 6-3), PSV Eindhoven (Neth)	3
Torpedo Moscow (Rus)	1	Metz (Fr)	1	Montpellier (fr)	0	Dynamo Batumi (Georg)	0
Dynamo won 2-1 on aggregate.		Tirol Innsbruck (Austria)	0	(0-0)		(Agg 4-1).	
Slavia Prague (Czech)	3	Metz won 1-0 on aggregate.		Sporting won 2-1 on aggregate.		Fiorentina (Ita)	1
Malmö (Swe)	1	Lyngby (Den)	0	Helsingborgs (Swe)	0	Gloria Bistrita (Rom) (Agg 2-1).	
Slavia won 5-2 on aggregate.		Club Brugge (Belg)	2	Aston Villa (Eng)	0	Kispest Honved (Hung)	1
Karlsruhe (Ger)	4	(0-0)		Aggregate score 1-1. Helsingborgs won on away goals.		Nimes (Fra)	2
Rapid Bucharest (Rom)	1	Club Brugge won 3-1 on aggregate.		Espanyol (Sp)	1	(Agg 2-5).	
Karlsruhe won 4-2 on aggregate.		Bayern Munich (Ger)	1	Apoel Nicosia (Cyprus)	0	AEK Larnaca (Cyp)	0
Casino Graz (Austria)	2	Valencia (Sp)	0	(0-0)		Barcelona (Spa)	0
Ekeren (Belg)	0	Valencia won 3-1 on aggregate.		Espanyol won 3-2 on aggregate.		(Agg 0-2).	
Aggregate score 3-0. Casino won on away goals.		Legia Warsaw (Pol)	2	Guimaraes (Por)	2	Paris Saint-Germain (Fra)	3
Trabzonspor (Turkey)	3	Aggregate score 4-4. Legia won on away goals rule.		Parma (It)	0	Vnduz (Liech)	0
Bodo-Glimt (Nor)	1	Aarau (Swi)	0	Guimaraes won 3-2 on aggregate.		(Agg 7-0).	
Trabzonspor won 5-2 on aggregate.		Brondby (Den)	2	Maccabi Tel Aviv (Israel)	1	Liverpool (Eng)	3
Dynamo Moscow (Rus)	1	(0-1)		Tenerife (Spain)	1	MyPa-47 (Fin)	1
Roma (It)	3	Brondby won 7-0 on aggregate.		Tenerife won 3-2 on aggregate.		(Agg 4-1).	
Roma won 6-1 on aggregate.		Alania Vladikavkaz (Rus)	0	Nyva Vinnytsya (Ukr)	0	Red Star Belgrade (Yugo)	4
Monaco (Fr)	3	(2-0)		Sion (Switz)	4	Kaiserlautern (Ger)	0
Hutnik Krakow (Pol)	1	Anderlecht won 5-2 on aggregate.		(Agg 0-6).		after extra time (90 mins 1-0). (Agg 4-1).	
Monaco won 4-1 on aggregate.		Feyenoord Rotterdam (Neth)	1	Varteks Varazdin (Groat)	2	Olimpija Ljubljana (Slov)	0
Hamburg (Ger)	2	CSKA Moscow (Rus)	1	Lokomotiv Moscow (Rus)	1	Aarhus (Den)	0
Glasgow Celtic (Scot)	0	Feyenoord won 2-1 on aggregate.		(Agg 2-2). Lokomotiv win on away goal rule.		(Agg 1-1). Olimpija win on away goals.	
Hamburg won 4-0 on aggregate.		Internazionale (It)	1	Ruch Chorzow (Pol)	0	Netherlands - First Division	
Boavista (Por)	1	Guingamp (Fr)	1	Benfica (Port)	0	RKC Waalwijk	0
Odense (Den)	2	Internazionale won 4-1 on aggregate.		(Agg 1-5).		Vitesse Arnhem	1
Aggregate score 4-4. Boavista won on away goals.		Lazio (It)	1	Humenne (Slov)	1	South America - Supercup, 1st Rd.	
Besiktas (Turkey)	3	Molenbeek (Belg)	0	AEK Athens (Gre)	2	Boca Juniors (Arg)	3
Besiktas won 3-0 on aggregate.		(Fr)	1	(Agg 1-3).		Argentinos Juniors (Arg)	0
Olympiakos (Greece)	2	Lazio won 2-1 on aggregate.		Galatasaray (Turk)	4	1st Rd., 2nd Leg	
Ferencvaros (Hung)	2	Barry Town (Wales)	3	Constructorul Chisinau (Mold)	0	Flamengo (Bra)	1

Croatian Corner

By John Viskovich

ZVONIMIR BOBAN FACT FILE

★ ★ ★

Date of Birth: 8.10.1968.

Position(s): Attacking midfielder at Dinamo.
Defensive midfielder at AC Milan.

Height: 183 cm.

Weight: 79 kg.

*In 11 seasons Boban has scored 55 goals in 193 games this excludes games in European competition for Dinamo, Milan and games for Yugoslavia and Croatia. Ironically Boban is more prolific in other than league matches and scores on a regular basis.

YEAR	CLUB	GAMES	GOALS
1985/86	Dinamo Zagreb	2	—
1986/87	Dinamo Zagreb	28	8
1987/88	Dinamo Zagreb	30	13
1988/89	Dinamo Zagreb	Army	Army
1989/90	Dinamo Zagreb	23	9
1990/91	Dinamo Zagreb	26	15
half			
season 91	Bari (Ita)	17	2
1992/93	AC Milan	13	—
1993/94	AC Milan	20	4
1994/95	AC Milan	21	1
1995/96	AC Milan	13	3

*For more Croatian Sports News tune into CRO 2000 with legendary announcer Ante Grabavac. The program is broadcast in English Wednesdays at 8.45 pm on 98.1 FM Radio Sydney. Please tune in!



DID YOU KNOW?

★Alen Boksic scored the only goal in a 1-0 win for Hajduk Split over Red Star Belgrade. The 1991 game was in Belgrade and proved to be the last cup Final of The United Yugoslavia.

★Red Star won the Champions Cup in 1991, but lost to Dinamo Zagreb in the league a week before. Dinamo won 3-2 with goals from Davor Suker and Slovenian Zidan of Dinamo and two goals for Red Star came from Macedonian Darko Pancev.

★Velez Mostar also had a 1-0 win over Red Star with a goal from Bosnian Memo Kodro in the same year.

★In 1990 when Partizan Belgrade took a 1-0 lead in Split over Hajduk, a Partizan player gave the Torcida a middle finger salute. To his surprise Torcida broke the fence and hundreds of fans ran on the field after him. The game was abandoned and the Partizan players ran into their dressing rooms.



TACKLE DIABETES



ALAGIOZIDIS IS GREEN & GOLD

BY GREG BLAKE

Dynamic Bentleigh Greens star, Ike Alagiozidis is favoured to win the 1996 Diabetes Australia Gold Medal for the best player in the Premier League year.

Despite missing much of the last half of the season with injury, Alagiozidis's eye-catching displays early season have put the newly-signed Collingwood Warriors player well in the running for the prestigious individual award.

This year's medal countdown is on Friday, October 11 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, Melbourne.

Last year produced the second consecutive dual winners when George Svigos and Tom Pondeljak tied for the gold, just twelve months after Nick Van Egmond and Josip Skoko did the same. In 1994 it was the first time in history.

This year's count is expected to be just as close, with as many as ten gun Premier League stars well in the running.

Alagiozidis is shooting for an impressive individual treble after taking out the Australian and British Soccer Weekly/Pascoe Vale SportsScene Most Exciting

Medal winners since Gold Medal first awarded in 1971

YEAR	GOLD MEDAL	BILL FLEMING MEDAL
1971	John Gardiner (George Cross)	Jim Pyrgolios (Sth Melbourne)
1972	John Gardiner (George Cross)	John Gardiner (George Cross)
1973	Vince Bannon (Fitzroy Utd)	Frank Micic (Footscray JUST)
1974	Pat Bannon (Fitzroy Utd)	Jim Armstrong (South Melbourne)
1975	David Baker (Hakoah)	Billy Vojtek (Juventus)
1976	Jim Tansey (Slavia)	Jim Tansey (Slavia)
1977	David Baker (Hakoah)	Mike Watkins (Juventus)
1978	Tommy Cumming (Ess. Croatia)	Tommy Cumming (Ess. Croatia)
1979	Tommy Cumming (Ess. Croatia)	Tommy Cumming (Ess. Croatia)
1980	Bobby McGuinness (Juventus)	Jimmy Dunne (Green Gully)
1981	Charlie Egan (Frankston City)	Charlie Egan (Frankston City)
1982	Vince Bannon (Juventus)	Peter Lewis (Green Gully)
1983	Stefan Mila (Polonia)	Paul Lewis (Green Gully)
1984	Jim Maclean (Morwell)	Steve Smith (Box Hill)
1985	Branko Culina (St. Albans)	Jim Maclean (Morwell)
1986	Alex Dick (Frankston Pines)	Alex Dick (Frankston Pines)
1987	Paul Harris (Caulfield)	Paul Harris (Caulfield)
1988	Martin Woodall (Northcote)	Ivan Duzel (St. Albans)
1989	Velimir Kupresak (St. Albans)	Velimir Kupresak (St. Albans)
1990	Claude Lucchesi (Fawkner)	Andy Humble (Croydon)
1991	Fab Incantalupo (Bulleen)	Fab Incantalupo (Bulleen)
1992	Bogdan Bonk (Nth Geelong)	Fausto di Amicis (Juventus)
1993	Steve Douglas (Albion)	David Cervinski (Nth Geelong)
1994	Josip Skoko (Nth Geelong) & Nick Van Egmond (Croydon)	Adrian Pender (Preston)
(tie)		
1995	George Svigos (Port Melbourne) & Tom Pondeljak (St Albans)	
(tie)		

Player of 1996 Award and is the popular tip to take out both the Gold Medal and the media-selected Bill Fleming Medal.

Both medals will be presented at the gala dinner.

Three players from each of the 14 Premier League clubs are invited to attend the big night to witness the best and fairest Premier League player of the season according to the votes of the referees.

The winner will come from that field of 42.

The Gold Medal is decided on the votes of match referees, with the Fleming Medal awarded on votes cast by a select media panel.

Other awards announced on the night include Best Under 21 player, Referee of the Year, Coach of the Year and the Weinstein Medal for the best junior player of the year.



Andy Vlahos: (Heidelberg United) scored the first equalising goal in the Grand Final.



Tom Markovski of Altona chases down Heidelberg's Andy Vlahos in the Premier League Grand Final.



Brian MacNicol: Jim Rooney Medal Winner.



Part of the near 6,000 crowd.



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DOCKERTY CUP FINAL

South Melbourne 1
(Trimboli 61) **Altona Magic 1** (Becvinovski 54) (Altona win 6-5 on penalties).

South: Petkovic, Anthopoulos, Orlic, Kuzmanovic, Trimboli, Spink, Clarkson, Baser, Knezevic (Tzirtis), Nikolic (Polak), G. Goutzioulis.

Magic: McGrath, Tasevski, Runje, Micevski (Atanasovski), Markovski, Georgopoulos, Becvinovski (Siveski), Velkovski, Bogoevski, Petrov, Petrevski.

Melbourne Knights: 5 (Alexiou 27, Martin 28, 35, J. Markovski 44, Kutlesovski 57).

Heidelberg United: 0

Knights: Knezevic, De Amicis, D. Cervinski, Z. Markovski, Marth (Silic), Spiteri (Bacak), Lapsansky (Kutlesovski), J. Markovski, Vojtek, Tiatto, T. Pondeljak.

United: Gal, Liapis (Alevrop??), J. Tsumerkas,

Polykandritis, Alexiou, Papadimitriou, Parisi, Svigos, Karasavdis, Stefanidis, Groidis (Bouzis).

FINAL

Altona Magic: 2
(Georgopoulos 8, Petrevski 16).

Melbourne Knights: 4 (Spiteri 34, 83, Lapsansky 40, Tiatto 49).



ALTONA MAGIC 2 MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 4

By DWIGHT TUFFNELL

The Melbourne Knights ended Altona Magic's brave Victorian soccer double attempt by overpowering them 4-2 at Bob Jane Stadium on Sunday.

Altona had raced to a 2-0 lead after 16 minutes and could have all but ended the game when Sash Becvinovski hit the post in 24 minutes.

The Knights pegged them back to 2-2 before half time and used the second half for shooting practice after some stern words from coach Ian Dobson at half time.

Nick Georgopoulos surprised Vilson Knezevic after eight minutes with a sharp turn and shot from Tom Markovski's pass.

Sixteen year old Zoran Petrevski then had everyone

thinking that an upset was on the cards when he cracked one in from the edge of the area to have Altona 2-0 ahead after just 16 minutes.

A mistake from Knights skipper Andrew Marth nearly cost them a third goal conceded when he presented the ball to Becvinovski on the edge of the area. Becvinovski, with just Knezevic to beat struck an upright.

From that moment on Altona were never in the game with the Knights scoring twice to level things up just before half time. Joe Spiteri got the first when a John Markovski cross eluded everyone and sat perfectly for the Soccerroo striker to tap in from close range.

Five minutes from half

time Lubo Lapsansky got the equaliser when he lashed in Tom Pondeljak's corner from 20 yards.

Danny Tiatto scored four minutes into the second half with a shot that took a cruel bounce over the head of Magic 'keeper Darren McGrath.

Ex-Magic player Ice Kutlesovski came close twice to adding a fourth with one stinging shot hitting the crossbar.

Spiteri scored an easy goal in the 83rd minute, taking John Markovski's chipped free kick, round McGrath and past two Magic defenders on the line.

"The first twenty minutes was typical to our attitude of the competition, we just took it too easy," said Dobson after

the game.

"Altona thoroughly deserved their lead and had they scored a third it would have been the end of the game for us.

"We started working hard in the second half getting our shape and creating the chances."

Dobson admits that he has to freshen his players up for the start of the Ericsson Cup competition after a gruelling period with the Dockerty and Johnnie Walker cups coinciding.

"We've got a lot of injuries, we need to freshen the players up and get them sharp for the start of the league."

Strengthening the squad is a priority of Dobson's with plans to bring in a striker to

cover the loss of Adrian Cervinski.

One player Dobson may be without is Danny Tiatto who flew out to Switzerland on Monday for talks with the Basle club.

"There's nothing definite at the moment but I'll go over there and see what happens" Tiatto said.

Magic: McGrath, Tasevski, Runje, Micevski, T. Markovski, Georgopoulos, Becvinovski, Velkovski, Bogoevski, Petrov (Siveski), Petrevski (Atanasovski).

Knights: Knezevic, De Amicis, Z. Markovski, Spiteri, Lapsansky, J. Markovski, Kutlesovski, Vojtek, Tiatto, T. Pondeljak, Marth.

Referee: Nestor Zachariadis.

PLAYER RATINGS

By JOHN RIGAS

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS



Vilson Knezevic: Looked ordinary early on, fumbled a few balls. Made some important saves to deny Henry Velkovski and Zoran Petrevski. (6)

Zoran Markovski: Had the marking duties on the dangerous Sash Becvinovski. Was kept busy early in containing the Magic strike force. (6)

Fausto De Amicis: Controlled the left side as usual. Stretched off late in the second-half, came back on to finish the game. Had a goal disallowed for off-side. (7)

Andrew Marth: Solid performance from the captain in defence, dominated the aerial duels all day and also joined the attack at various stages. (7)

Damien Vojtek: Did his job well, provided some worthwhile balls to his teammates. Played in a defensive/midfield role. (6)

Tom Pondeljak: Involved in the second goal for the Knights, when he supplied the ball to Lubo Lapsansky in the first-half. Used his pace and skill to burn the Altona outfit. (7)

Lubo Lapsansky: Scored a cracking goal to level the ledger in the opening stanza. Played in the middle of the park distributing balls to all parts of the ground. (8)

John Markovski: Big Jonesy was involved in setting up Joe Spiteri twice both times resulting in goals. Had a great battle with his brother Tom for most of the afternoon. (7)

Joe Spiteri: Scored two goals both from close range. His pace worried the Altona defence which at times could only watch. (6)

Ice Kutlesovski: Looked sharp at certain stages, especially when he struck the crossbar from inside the box on the turn. Marked by cousin Marjan Tasevski. (6)

Danny Tiatto: Took on three Altona players before letting fly with a thunderous strike which beat Darren McGrath in the Altona goal. Played his last game for the Knights before heading off to Switzerland. Solid performance. (7)

AMATEUR CUP FINAL

report from Zoran Milenkovski

The Keysborough Saints were crowned Amateur Cup winners after disposing of Altona Tartan Army 3-0 at Bob Jane Stadium on Sunday.

The first goal came after 41 minutes when a Nedeljko Dragojevic cross found Zoran Barjaktar to give the Saints the lead.

In the second half the Saints clinched the trophy with two goals from Saints striker Milan Stojilovic.

Saints: Peric, P. Prvulj, D. Prvulj, Mitrovic, Skoric, Borovic (Bijelic), Sember (Blagojevic), Kecojevic, Barjaktar, Dragojevic (sent off), Stojilovic.

Tartan Army: Reid, Macleod, C. Cairns, Mclelland (Gerada), Page, Brown (sent off), R. Cullen (Bartolo), Ingram, Gill (J. Cullen), J. Cairns, Smith.

Referee: Mario Ibeas.

ALTONA MAGIC



Darren McGrath: Saved a close range shot from John Markovski in the first-half keeping his team in the game a little longer. Beaten by two powerful shots from Lapsansky and Tiatto in both halves. (6)

Milco Bogoevski: Solid performance from the youngster in defence. Contributed well should be happy with the way he played. (6)

Marjan Tasevski: Had the marking duties on Ice Kutlesovski, got the better of his cousin. Looked good when overlapping on the left flank. (7)

Robert Runje: Did not put a foot wrong all day. Outstanding in the heart of the Magic defence. Took a long range shot which surprised everyone. (7)

Simon Micevski: Strong in the air, took time to settle. The pace of the Knights attack put him on the wrong foot. (6)

Tom Markovski: Markovski led by example, was hard at the ball but fair. Supplied the ball to Nick Georgopoulos for the opening goal of the game. (7)

Nick Georgopoulos: Was involved in both of Altona's goals. Scored from outside the box with a powerful strike. Set up Zoran Petrevski for the Magic's second. (7)

Sash Becvinovski: The unluckiest player on the park. Becvinovski let fly with a sizzling shot from an angle which struck the post. The Magic could have been three goals up at that time. (7)

Henry Velkovski: Solid contribution from Velkovski. Was involved in most of the play, went in hard and came out on top in most challenges. (7)

Zoran Petrevski: Dream first-half from Petrevski, scored a classic goal which left goalkeeper Knezevic breathing thin air. Replaced by Zdravko Atanasovski at half-time. (5)

George Petrov: Could have contributed more but lacked pace which let him down. Played in the middle of the park. Replaced by Pece Siveski. (5)

Zdravko Atanasovski: Came on at half-time, did an excellent job at right-back. Showed a few glimpses of his delightful skill. (6)

Pece Siveski: Replaced Petrov late in the game. Fair performance in mid-field, did not have enough time to show his worth. (4)



Victorian Ladders



STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 1

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sp White Eagles	24	16	4	4	51	24	52
Richmond	25	14	9	2	52	28	51
Preston Lions	25	14	8	3	41	17	50
West Suburbs	25	11	7	7	32	25	40
Kings City	25	9	12	4	34	28	39
Lalor Utd	25	10	7	8	57	42	37
Westgate	25	10	6	9	45	45	36
Moorabbin City	25	9	7	9	35	32	34
C'don City Dons	25	8	7	10	43	34	31
Don'ster Rovers	25	7	10	8	32	35	31
Werribee City	25	8	6	11	34	29	30
Broadmeadows	25	6	2	17	25	64	20
Northcote City	24	4	7	13	22	40	19
Glen Eira City	25	1	2	22	15	73	5

STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 1

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sp White Eagles	26	17	4	5	56	27	55
Preston Lions	26	15	8	3	46	17	53
Richmond	26	14	10	2	54	30	52
West Suburbs	26	11	8	7	33	26	41
Kings City	26	9	13	4	36	30	40
Lalor Utd	26	10	8	8	50	43	38
Westgate	26	10	7	9	47	47	37
Moorabbin City	26	9	8	9	35	34	35
Werribee City	26	9	6	11	37	30	33
C'don City Dons	26	8	7	11	43	36	31
Don'ster Rovers	26	7	10	9	33	38	31
Broadmeadows	26	7	2	17	28	66	23
Northcote City	26	5	7	14	24	43	22
Glen Eira City	26	1	2	23	15	78	5

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Richmond	25	18	4	3	73	25	58
Preston	23	18	2	3	62	22	56
Moorabbin City	25	13	7	5	59	30	46
Don'ster Rovers	26	14	3	9	51	35	45
Werribee City	26	13	6	7	47	40	45
Kings City	26	13	3	10	62	39	42
Lalor United	26	13	2	11	59	42	41
Croydon City	24	12	3	9	49	36	39
Sp White Eagles	25	9	4	12	51	50	31
Glen Eira City	26	7	4	15	37	65	25
West Suburbs	26	6	5	15	40	62	23
Northcote City	24	6	4	14	21	25	22
Westgate	26	6	1	19	30	77	19
Broadmeadows	26	2	6	18	24	67	12

STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 2

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Westvale	26	23	1	2	97	25	67
Sth Dandenong	26	17	4	5	62	30	55
Altona East	26	15	5	6	51	35	50
Waverley City	26	10	7	9	67	62	37
Ess Brun Royals	26	10	7	9	26	28	37
Altona City	26	10	6	10	38	25	36
Knox City	26	8	9	9	42	48	33
Frankston Pines	26	7	10	9	32	37	31
East Richmond	26	8	6	12	45	49	30
Oakland	26	6	9	11	37	58	27
Regent Bulla	26	5	11	10	28	44	26
Bell Park	26	6	6	14	31	45	24
Mooroolbark	26	5	6	15	32	56	21
Nunawading City	26	4	9	13	26	67	21

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Frankston Pines	25	18	3	4	62	24	57
Waverley City	26	17	2	7	78	40	53
Altona City	26	16	3	7	59	32	51
Westvale	26	16	5	5	66	40	50
Ess Brun Royals	26	13	4	9	59	31	43
East Richmond	26	10	8	8	46	34	38
Knox City	26	9	8	9	55	46	35
Mooroolbark	26	8	10	8	41	47	34
Oakland	26	9	3	14	61	53	30
Altona East	25	8	6	11	42	48	30
Regent Bulla	25	9	1	15	46	74	28
Nunawading City	26	6	4	16	48	65	22

Sth Dandenong	25	6	4	15	39	65	22
Bell Park	26	2	5	19	24	127	11

STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 3

FIRSTS

Frankston	25	19	2	4	76	29	59
Ringwood City	26	17	5	4	73	26	56
Sth Springvale	26	14	7	5	57	30	49
Dia Valley Utd	26	13	4	9	38	35	43
Fitzroy City	26	12	5	9	46	35	41
Cranbourne	26	12	5	9	41	32	41
Pascoe Vale	26	9	8	9	37	39	35
Sth Caulfield	25	10	5	10	42	42	32
Melb City	26	8	7	11	38	43	31
Sth Werribee	26	6	9	11	41	46	27
Banyule	26	6	8	12	37	57	26
Keilor Eagles	26	5	10	11	21	34	25
Chelsea	26	6	6	14	41	86	24
Clifton Hill	26	1	5	20	20	74	8

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Ringwood City	25	22	1	2	109	19	67
Cranbourne	26	20	4	2	105	23	64
Keilor Eagles	26	17	5	4	73	36	56
Fitzroy City	25	13	5	7	77	52	44
Sth Springvale	25	12	7	6	57	27	43
Dia Valley Utd	25	12	4	9	60	49	40
Melb City	26	11	6	9	56	48	39
Frankston	24	11	5	8	85	42	38
Pascoe Vale	25	8	3	14	46	61	27
Sth Werribee	26	7	4	15	50	99	25
Banyule	26	7	3	16	55	84	24
Sth Caulfield	25	5	7	13	30	49	19
Chelsea	26	4	2	20	33	105	14
Clifton Hill	26	0	2	24	13	151	2

STATE LEAGUE — DIVISION 4

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Geelong	26	16	7	3	60	30	55
Nth Coburg Utd	26	17	3	6	71	38	54
Yarraville	26	16	6	4	56	29	54
Sun Heights	26	15	3	8	55	27	48
Stonnington	25	14	5	6	53	32	47
Langwarrin	26	10	6	10	56	41	36
Sunbury Utd	26	9	7	10	35	38	34
Lalor	26	9	6	11	44	41	33
Seaford Utd	26	9	5	12	39	47	32
Monbulk	25	7	9	9	32	33	30
Moreland City	26	8	4	14	40	53	28
Corio	26	7	5	14	29	58	26
Williamstown	26	4	6	16	28	61	18
San'ham City	26	3	2	21	23	93	11

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Langwarrin	25	19	3	3	86	28	60
Sun Heights	26	17	6	3	79	17	57
Lalor	26	15	7	4	64	34	52
Sunbury Utd	26	15	4	7	41	31	49
Yarraville	26	11	9	6	65	38	42
Stonnington	25	12	4	9	51	39	40
Seaford Utd	26	10	8	8	60	43	38
Nth Coburg Utd	26	10	4	12	63	77	34
Moreland City	26	10	3	13	48	49	33
Monbulk	26	5	7	14	27	51	22
Corio	26	5	7	14	33	80	22
Geelong	26	3	7	14	33	80	22
San'ham City	26	6	1	19	36	88	19
Williamstown	26	3	6	17	32	81	15

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Geel Rangers	25	19	3	3	69	23	60
Keysborough	23	18	1	4	62	18	55
Melton	25	11	9	5	39	24	42
Sth Wantirna	23	13	2	8	54	32	41
Knox Park	24	12	4	8	51	34	40
Sp'vale Condors	23	10	8	5	42	38	35
Nth Sunshine	23	10	3	10	44	39	33
Mitcham Utd	21	10	1	10	41	35	31
Old Scotch-Haw	25	8	5	12	36	36	29
Doveton	24	7	7	10	26	33	28
Ballarat	24	6	4	14	24	47	22

Mornington	24	6	3	15	20	61	21
Glenroy	24	5	5	14	32	52	20
Heidelberg City	24	3	1	20	18	86	10

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Melton	24	13	4	7	51	28	43
Mitcham Utd	19	13	3	3	59	28	42
Knox Park	22	12	5	5	54	29	41
Nth Sunshine	23	11	5	7	37	35	38
Glenroy	22	10	5	7	57	42	35
Ballarat	20	11	2	7	40	35	35
Mornington	24	10	4	10	36	48	34
Sp'vale Condors	22	9	5	8	49	38	29
Sth Wantirna	23	7	8	8	36	35	29
Geel Rangers	25	8	5	12	48	59	29
Old Scotch-Haw	25	6	9	10	49	52	27
Keysborough	24	6	5	13	41	59	23
Heidelberg City	25	3	11	11	25	61	20
Doveton	24	4	5	15	31	63	17

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Lyndale United	24	16	5	3	70	26	53
Croxton	22	16	3	3	61	23	51
Endeavour Utd	22	15	5	2	93	21	50
Sth Yarra	23	12	3	8	50	44	39
Brandon Park	24	12	2	10	42	45	38
Brunswick City	24	11	4	9	43	35	37
Meadow Park	25	10	6	9	38	39	36
Hoppers Crossing	25	10	6	9	42	58	36
Braeside Utd	25	9	6	10	39	43	33
Berwick City	23	7	5	11	33	39	26
Hampt Pk Utd	21	5	6	10	29	49	21
Dandenong	22	5	4	13	27	49	19
N. Glenr	25	4	6	15	30	73	18
E Nun Eagles	25	2	1	22	16	69	7

RESERVES

WOMEN'S WRITES

BY JANENE MAR

NSW CHAMPIONS!

New South Wales has once again proved its superiority in women's football with victory at the Australian Senior Championship last week in Darwin.

This triumph followed closely on the heels of victory in the national Junior Championship in Perth for NSW.

Their win sets a new record of four consecutive titles in this, the premier event on the Australian calendar. With just five players from their 1995 Champion side, the success in Darwin illustrates the depth of talent in NSW's ranks. The Blues remained undefeated throughout the week. They dominated the final on Saturday against surprise opponents South Australia with a scoreline of 3-1.

Scheduled to play the 'double' on Day One, NSW set the pace from the start with maximum points to finish the day five points clear at the top of the ladder. Their opener against SA however proved an early challenge and an omen of what was to come.

"They surprised us," said recently appointed coach Bruce Tilt. "We had to work very hard to beat them on the first day."

With the complexity of the draw, SA did not clearly emerge as finalist contenders until after their win over

fellow challengers Western Australia on Day Four. Northern NSW and Queensland were also neck and neck in the fight for a top two placing.

NSW continued on its winning ways until their scoreless draw on Day Five against rivals NNSW which suddenly opened up the competition for the trailing pack.

In the end everything hinged on Day Six results, with four teams - NSW, WA, SA and NNSW - all still in with a realistic chance to make the final. SA's win in the last match of the day took them ahead of NNSW to join favourites NSW in the clash for the ultimate prize.

South Australia, with current internationals Sharon Black and Kristyn Swaffer and top youngsters Jessica Halfpenny and Kristy Moore, had been quietly confident before making the journey to Darwin that this was to be their year. Performing solidly throughout the week, they made good their promise and earned themselves a spot in the final - only their second ever appearance, and their first in twelve years.

The grand finale last Saturday saw NSW gain the upper hand after just two minutes. Aussie striker Katrina Boyd scoring a la Ned Zelic with a clever shot from



Sharon Black: Chosen in Best Eleven at Senior Championships

the byline.

Despite the early setback, SA fought on, but were given little opportunity to make their mark on the match as NSW carved their way through with trademark passing combinations. Displaying superb control all over the park, the Blues dominated and went in search of more goals.

One such impressive wave of attack resulted in goal two

in the 20th minute. Starting the move in their own half, eight passes later and a switch of play, saw Boyd again on hand to convert with a stunning first time volley. The 2-0 scoreline remained at the break.

South re-emerged for the second period determined as ever and never gave up. But the Blues' third goal in the fiftieth minute all but put the

game beyond their reach. A perfect through ball from the middle of the pitch sent NSW speedster Elizabeth Cotton through the defence. Coming off the bench just six minutes beforehand, she kept her head to narrowly beat the advancing keeper and stick away the shot.

SA were rewarded with an injury time consolation goal, taking advantage as NSW continued to venture forward. Substitute NSW keeper Kristen Dorsch parried an SA shot, resulting in a goalmouth scramble. Fifteen year old sensation Halfpenny added to her week's tally, sticking the ball in the net.

But the honours belonged to NSW, a great allround display and more than deserving of the 3-1 victory and the all important title of Australian Champions.

"We came here to do a job, and this was the final day to finish it off," said Tilt. "Today's match for us was like going to the boardroom. At half time, we decided to take the vote and take the game. We played the ball wide, got in accurate crosses, and the players were there in the box to finish."

"The most satisfying thing for me was we strung together six/eight/ten passes together consistently. All sixteen members played, and over the week we had eleven different

1996 ALL-STAR TEAM:

★ ★ ★

Goalkeeper	Tracey Wheeler	WA
Defender	Joanne Powell	NNSW
Defender	Traci Bartlett	NSW
Defender	Kristyn Swaffer	SA
Defender	Kaye Yardin	NSW
Midfield	Sarah Cooper	NT
Midfield	Sharon Black	SA
Midfield	Joanne Peters	NSW
Midfield	Bridgette Starr	NNSW
Forward	Kristy Mehan	NNSW
Forward	Jessica Halfpenny	SA

scorers. This made it difficult for our opponents to tell our strength, because it was a whole team effort."

"South Australia deserved to be in the final - they were the second best team here," added Tilt. "To their credit today, they kept going and worked hard."

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Belinda Barter (Kristen Dorsch), Kaye Yardin, Traci Bartlett, Vicki Linton, Anissa Tann-Darby, Joanne Peters (Stephanie Kite), Lisa Rowland (Rebecca Kilpatrick), Kristie Smith (Jane Hornsby), Alison Hayes, Gill Thomson, Katrina Boyd (Elizabeth Cotton). Coach:

Bruce Tilt.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA:

Julie Anderson, Kristy Moore, Renice Reeves, Felicity Forby, Claire Siggery, Emily Bussitil, Wendy Carter, Karin Prince, Kristyn Swaffer, Jessica Halfpenny, Sharon Black, Bev Holland, Tiffany Winn, Sarah Barker, Kimberly Morris, Jodi Smith, Dora Altintas.

Coach: Kevin McCormack

Referee: Tammy Peacock
Assistant Referee: Sheena Storrie
Assistant Referee: Annette Comino
4th Official: Elizabeth Mast.

AUSTRALIAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP 1996

FINAL LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
New South Wales	6	5	1	0	15	2	16
South Australia	6	4	1	1	11	4	13
Northern NSW	6	3	3	0	7	2	12
Western Australia	6	3	1	2	11	4	10
Victoria	6	2	1	3	6	7	7
Queensland	6	2	1	3	5	7	7
Aust Capital Territory	6	2	1	3	4	6	7
Northern Territory	6	1	1	4	8	11	4
Tasmania	6	0	0	6	3	27	0

CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY: New South Wales

ASSOCIATION TROPHY: New South Wales

MOST VALUABLE PLAYER: Carolyn Lynch (TAS goalkeeper)

FAIR PLAY AWARD: Tasmania

TOP GOALSCORERS (Preliminary Rounds)

Nicole Green (NT)	5 goals
Jessica Halfpenny (SA)	5
Michele Matthews (WA)	5
Lisa Dunne (QLD)	4
Sharon Black (SA)	3
Lisa Tana (WA)	3
Leigh Terek (VIC)	3

★ ★ ★

AUSTRALIAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP 1996

FULL RESULTS

SUN 22 SEPT

NSW	2	SA	1
Traci Bartlett, Vicki Linton, Jessica Halfpenny.			
QLD	0	ACT	0
WA	0	NNSW	0
NT	4	VIC	1
Nicole Green, Kathy Zacharopoulos			
NSW	1	TAS	0
Anissa Tann-Darby, Lisa Rowland, Jane Hornsby, Alison Hayes.			

MON 23 SEPT

NNSW	1	ACT	0
Jodie Randall			
WA	2	NT	0
Michele Matthews, Lisa Tana.			
QLD	3	TAS	0
Lisa Dunne 2, Kim Jones.			
SA	1	VIC	0
Jodi Smith.			

TUES 24 SEPT

NSW	4	QLD	0
Joanne Peters 2, Kristie Smith, Gill Thomson.			
SA	1	NNSW	1
Kristyn Swaffer		Danielle Small	
WA	1	ACT	0
Lisa Tana			
VIC	3	TAS	1
Leigh Terek, Christina Sidiropoulos, o.g.			
QLD	2	NT	0
Lisa Dunne 2			

WED 25 SEPT

SA	2	WA	0
Jessica Halfpenny 2			
NSW	3	VIC	1
Katrina Boyd 2, Vicki Linton			
		Leigh Terek	

ACT	3	NT	0
Amy Wilson, Debbie Corcoran, Cindy Doyle			
NNSW	3	TAS	1
Shelley Youman 2, Kristy Mehan		Simone Cobern	

THU 26 SEPT

VIC	1	QLD	0
Leigh Terek			
WA	8	TAS	0
Michele Matthews 4, Penny Tanner 2, Lisa Tana, Linda Kelly.			
SA	2	NT	1
Jessica Halfpenny 2		Tanya Dyer	
NNSW	0	NSW	0
ACT	1	VIC	0
Heather Birnie			

FRI 27 SEPT

NT	6	TAS	1
Nicole Green 4, Anita Lewfart, Tanya Dyer		Sarah Fitzgerald	
NNSW	2	QLD	0
Kristy Mehan, Jodie Randall			
NSW	2	WA	0
Traci Bartlett, Elizabeth Cotton.			
SA	4	ACT	0
Sharon Black 3, Kristyn Swaffer.			

SAT 28 SEPT

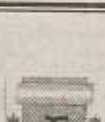
NSW	3	SA	1
Katrina Boyd 2, Elizabeth Cotton.		Jessica Halfpenny	

★ ★ ★



SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHART —



SOUTH AMERICAN SUPERCUP

Cruzeiro of Brazil drew 1-1 away with Nacional of Uruguay in the first leg of the South American Supercup first qualifying round.

Striker Juan Gonzalez put Nacional 1-0 in front after 23 minutes, but 10 minutes later Ailton equalised for Cruzeiro. The Brazilians played with only ten men for 82 minutes after Cruzeiro's striker Cleiton was set off.

The second leg will be played in Minas Gerais, Brazil, on October 3.

Gremio of Brazil and

Argentine champions, Velez Sarsfield, drew 3-3 in a dramatic encounter played at Gremio's Olympic stadium of Porto Alegre.

Saulo in the 30th minute, Arce in the 45th and Ailton in the 48th scored for Gremio while Camps in the 24th, Moriggi in the 62nd, and Rivarola (own goal) in the 66th, netted for Velez Sarsfield.

The second leg will be played in Buenos Aires, tomorrow, Wednesday.

Atletico Nacional of Colombia qualified for the

South American Supercup second round after its 2-1 victory over River Plate of Argentina, in Medellin.

Defender Guillermo Rivarola put River Plate 1-0 ahead in the 17th, with a powerful free kick, while Juan Pablo Angel equalised in the 38th, and former Colombian international defender Luis Carlos Perea scored the winner for Nacional in the last minute of the game.

The first leg, played in Buenos Aires, ended in a 2-2 draw.

CHILAVERT TO PLAY IN EUROPE

Jose Luis Chilavert, the controversial Paraguayan international goalkeeper, finished his career with Argentine champions Velez Sarsfield after a highly successful stint with the club.

Four Argentine championships in six years, one Libertadores Cup, one Toyota Cup, and a Ibero American Cup, are some of Chilavert's achievements with Velez.

In 1995, the prestigious Uruguayan newspaper "El Pais" (The Country), through its annual pool carried out among 160 of the most important sport journalists in the continent, distinguished Chilavert as "South American Player of the Year".

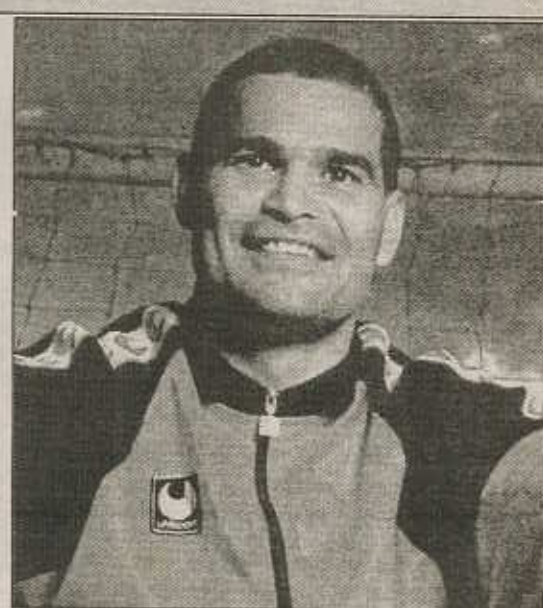
Now the goalkeeper, who created history scoring goals

from free kicks and from the penalty spot, becoming for many experts the best in the world, will resume his career in Europe with Italian first division club AC Roma.

Chilavert will join Carlos Bianchi and defender Roberto Trotta, a former teammate. The South American legion at Roma includes Argentine international striker Abel Balbo and Uruguayan international forward Daniel Fonseca.

The controversial custodian has been transferred for a reported US\$3.6 million, the biggest amount paid to an Argentine club for a goalkeeper.

Velez Sarsfield will replace Chilavert with former Argentine international goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea.



Jose Chilavert: Moved to Rome from Argentina.

CONMEBOL CUP

River Plate from Uruguay, Guarani of Paraguay, Lanus and defending champion Rosario Central, both from Argentina, Emelec of Ecuador, Vasco Da Gama of Brazil, and Independiente Santa Fe of Colombia, qualified for the South American Conmebol Cup second round.

River Plate of Uruguay beat compatriots Porongos of Trinidad 6-0 and advanced to the second round.

Goals: 19th and 50th Daniel Rosello; 54th Heber Dos Santos; 63rd Carlos Curbeo; 71st Ricardo Lopez; 72nd Raul Salazar.

Guarani of Paraguay qualified for the second round after its 3-1 win over Fluminense of Brazil, in Asuncion.

Goals: 45th Celso Gonzalez; 53rd Derlis Soto; 70th Aristides Rojas.

Lanus of Argentina defeated Bolivar of Bolivia 4-1, in Buenos Aires, and advanced to the second round.

Goals: 44th and 78th (penalty) Serrizuela; 73rd Mena; 87th Enra. For Bolivar Ochaizpur in the 3rd minute.

Rosario Central, the defending champion, also qualified for the second round with a convincing 4-1 victory over Cobreloa of Chile, in Rosario, Argentina.

Goals: 8th Arruabarrena; 13th and 22nd Da Silva; 58th Cardetti. For Cobreloa, Vazquez in the 90th minute.

Emelec of Ecuador advanced to the second round after a 4-3 win, on penalties, against Alianza Lima of Peru

in Guayaquil.

Emelec won 2-1 in regular time while, in the first leg, Alianza beat Emelec for similar scoreline.

Independiente Santa Fe of Colombia qualified for the second round after thrashing Tachira of Venezuela 3-0, in Santa Fe.

Goals: 34th Grigor Mendez; 55th Orlando Garces; 67th Francisco Wittingham.

First leg in Caracas: Tachira 2 Independiente 2.

Vasco Da Gama of Brazil qualified to the second round after an easy 4-0 win over Tolima of Colombia in Manaus.

The first leg, played in Ibagu, Colombia, finished 1-0 in favour of the Colombians.

Aggregate: Vasco Da Gama 4-1.

Nacional Wins the Uruguayan Soccer Leg Second Phase

Nacional won the Uruguayan league second phase without playing because its 2-0 victory, by decree, over Sud America, the team who abandoned the competition four weeks ago after financial problems.

Now the winner of the second phase will have to play Penarol, the title holder and winner of the first phase, to decide who is the 1996

Uruguayan champion. Penarol won the title three times in a row, in 1993, 1994 and 1995.

With only two rounds to go, Nacional leads the competition with 24 points, followed by Huracan Buceo with 16, Defensor Sporting 15, Danubio and Rampla Juniors 14 each, and Penarol and River Plate with 12 each. Sud America was relegated to second division.

ECUADOR ALMOST MATCH AGAINST COLOMBIA

The Ecuadorean national team began its build up preparation for the match against Colombia, on October 9 in Quito, under the guidance of former Colombian national team coach Francisco Maturana.

It will be Ecuador's fourth game for the South American World Cup qualifying rounds and the third at home. The Ecuadoreans beat Peru (4-1), Argentina (2-0), and Venezuela (1-0) in Quito, losing 4-1 against Chile in Santiago.

Meanwhile, the Colombians, the only unbeaten team in the competition, will play its

second match away. So far the Colombians have defeated Paraguay (1-0), Uruguay (3-1) and Chile (4-1) in Barranquilla, and drew 1-1 against Peru in Lima.

Maturana named 18 players to face Colombia in Quito, twelve of them playing in the domestic league and six are based overseas.

The squad is: Morales, Montano, Burbano, Diaz, Obregon, Carabali, De La Cruz, De Souza, Delgado, Cevallos, Smith, Fernandez, A. and I. Hurtado (Mexico), Tenorio and Rivera (Brasil), Capurro (Argentina) and Hurtado (United States).

ASIAN SUPER CUP GAMES REPORTS

FIRST LEG

Ilhwa Chunma 5 Bellmare Hiratsuka 3

Asian Club Champions Ilhwa Chunma took on Bellmare Hiratsuka, Japan's Asian Cup Winners' Cup champions, and quite simply demolished them in the first half at the Changwon Stadium, Ilhwa's home in Masan City, South Korea.

It took Lee Gi Bum, Ilhwa's hero in the Afro-Asian Club Championship, just three minutes to open the scoring when, despite a suspicion of hand ball, he pounced on Kim Kyung Bum's low cross, thumping it past Kojima in the Bellmare goal.

Han Jung Kuk doubled the lead soon after to complete an amazing opening six minutes when he slipped the ball home from close range.

Han scored his second and Ilhwa's third with a bullet header from Ko Jeong Woon's cross as they went on the offensive following a period of Bellmare pressure.

By the 46th minute they had scored a fourth - Lee Gi Bum charging into the penalty area before lifting the ball over the advancing Kojima and placing it into the bottom corner of the net.

It was Betinho's industry that eventually kick-started the Bellmare revival. On the 50th minute captain Kazuaki Tasaka scored what seemed to be nothing more than a consolation goal when he clipped the ball into the net. Three minutes later it was 4-2 when Paulinho's cross sailed over Ilhwa keeper Valeri Sarytchev before Koji Noguchi headed in.

With ten minutes to go the once unthinkable happened as Bellmare reduced the deficit to just one goal; Narahashi's left foot shot from the right side of the penalty area slid past Valeri Sarytchev's out-stretched right hand and nestled in the back of the net.

Ilhwa, though, were determined

not to have their advantage eroded and, just before the full-time whistle, doubled their lead once again when substitute Lee Sang Yoon shot on the turn to beat the Bellmare

Asian Super Cup 1st Leg Masan City, Korea

Ilhwa Chunma 5 (Lee Gi Bum 4, 46, Han Jung Kuk 7, 37, Lee Sang Yoon 89)

Bellmare Hiratsuka 3 (Kazuaki Tasaka 50, Koji Noguchi 52, Akira Narahashi 80)

Ilhwa Chunma: Sarytchev; Lee Young Ji, Stepuchkine (Lee Jong Hwa 60), Park Kwang Hyun; Ha Sung Jun, Lee Gi Bum (Yoo Bong Ki 75), Sin Tae Yong, Park Nam Yoel, Kim Kyung Bum; Ko Jeong Woon, Han Jung Kuk (Lee Sang Yoon 60).

Bellmare Hiratsuka: Kojima; Kumon, Natsuka, Miyazawa; Iwamoto (Seki 74), Betinho, Tasaka; Simao; Narahashi; Paulinho (T Nishiyama 83).

SECOND LEG

Bellmare Hiratsuka 0 Ilhwa Chunma 1

The man with the number seven on his back was the man to do the damage and the man who would finally give Ilhwa Chunma the Grand Slam of Asian football's silverware as they collected the Asian Super Cup.

That man was Korean international Sin Tae Yong - the current Korean Player of the Year and one of the shining lights in a galaxy of talent at Asia's top club.

Sin guided his side to the first ever clean sweep of the AFC's trophies with a 77th minute goal against Bellmare Hiratsuka.

Playing in front of a backdrop that portrayed unity between the two 2002 World Cup hosts, there wasn't much friendship shown as Bellmare looked to reverse the 5-3 deficit that Ilhwa had inflicted upon them a week earlier on a balmy evening in southern Korea.

It was only fitting that the amiable Korean should be the man to score the winning goal that would give Ilhwa the 2nd Asian Super Cup to add to the Korean League, Asian Club Championship and Afro-Asian Club Championship.

It came following quality approach work from Sin's national team mate Ko Jeong Woon. He held the ball up before rounding the Bellmare defence and delivering a perfect cross onto Sin's head at the far post. Sin couldn't miss.

The goal capped a remarkable performance which saw Sin couple his typical tenacious style with surging runs forward and stout defensive work - the number seven must have covered every bit of the Hiratsuka Stadium as he buzzed around the centre of the park.

The game, though, was not as one sided as the first half of the opening fixture had been with Betinho and Simao looking

increasingly dangerous for Bellmare. However, the Brazilians were thwarted by another import - Gennadi Stepuchkine, Ilhwa's reliable Russian sweeper who showed a return to form following the criticism he received from Lee Jang Soo following the first leg.

Asian Super Cup 2nd Leg Hiratsuka, Japan

Ilhwa win 6-3 on aggregate

Bellmare Hiratsuka: Kojima; Kumon (K Seki 79), Miyazawa, Natsuka; Iwamoto (H Nakata 67), Betinho, Tasaka, Simao; Narahashi; Noguchi, Paulinho.

Ilhwa Chunma: Sarytchev; Yoo Bong Ki (Lee Jong Hwa 65), Stepuchkine, Park Kwang Hyun; Ha Sung Jun, Lee Gi Bum (Park Nam Yoel 45), Lee Young Ji, Sin Tae Yong (Lee Tae Hong 87), Han Jung Kuk, Kim Kyung Bum; Ko Jeong Woon.

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COMPROMISE REACHED BETWEEN FA & FL

All English clubs in Europe this term have been exempted from playing in the 2nd round of the Coca Cola Cup - the home and away round when Premiership clubs come into the competition. Much as this is to be admired by the FA and Football League, you have to ask whether this is detrimental to the smaller sides who look to this round for a means of balancing the books if they can meet one of the heavyweight teams.

On the other hand, with Manchester United, Liverpool, Newcastle, Aston Villa and Arsenal all exempt from round two, it gives five smaller sides a chance to progress further, five teams that wouldn't have got this opportunity had this agreement not been reached. Swings and round-a-bouts as they say but it must be a reminder that had the FA and FL not come to an agreement, clubs like Manchester United may have walked from the competition as witnessed by remarks made last term about there being too many games in England.

With a shorter league playing programme to a few years ago, the demands on a

footballer have not changed, the demands on clubs likewise. What has changed though is the monetary gain with Pay TV calling the shots these days. Together with a far higher profile for the top clubs, if that's possible, and a merchandising bandwagon that far exceeds what's gone before, it's reasonable to suggest that top flight clubs want to be a little more choosy about the number of games played and the type of opposition. (Arsenal and Aston Villa have already been knocked out of European contention by sides from Germany and Sweden respectively).

The compromise reached between England's two governing bodies should be seen as a positive step to ensuring participation by the big clubs, thereby not belittling the competition, and the opportunity for the lower league sides to progress further and still meet a Premier League team. Balanced against a Home and Away opportunity under the old system, which could be against a side from their own division of course thanks to the luck of the draw, the new modus operandi looks a good alternative.

Champions' Cup Update...

Celtic lost 2-0 to Hamburg and Rangers went down 2-1 to Auxerre in their European Champions Cup match last week. Celtic are out of their competition and it doesn't look too good for the Gers either. The surprise result must be that of Grasshoppers Zurich defeating Ajax 1-0 in Amsterdam!

The Swiss side has had two great opening games in the round robin section and look very good for reaching the

semi-final stages. Can Manchester United make the semis? I wouldn't like to bet on it but here's wishing all UK clubs still in competition the very best of luck and good wishes in taking home the silverware, none of which has hit the British Isles since Arsenal's 1994 Cup Winners Cup defeat of Parma. A situation that ought to be redressed as soon as possible.

☆☆☆



The all conquering Arsenal team of the 1932-33, went on to win the English Football League championship for three years in succession. They are back row (l to r): Parker, Jones, Moss, Roberts, John and Black. Front row (l to r): Herbert Chapman (manager), Huime, Jack, Lambert, James, Bastin

Arsenal 1932/33: Did they indulge in odd behaviour?

ARSENAL LET DOWN

Dear, oh dear, oh dear! What's going on at Highbury? The controversy and turmoil at the club continues almost unabated from a club where news is usually difficult to obtain yet more and more problems appear to be arising.

The latest in the recent run has been the confession of Tony Adams to being an alcoholic. It leads to plenty of jokes about Arsenal's playing style amongst other things but a look at the clubs recent record doesn't read too well:

Tony Adams
Jailed for 56 days following a driving conviction. Fell down a flight of concrete steps after celebrating his son's birthday and once sprayed diners with a fire extinguisher.

David Seaman
Reportedly caused a mild scandal when leaving his wife and two sons for Arsenal employee Deborah Rogers. (Alleged).

Nigel Winterburn
Sent home from a tour of Singapore with Kevin Richardson, Perry Groves and Paul Merson after a late night boozing session. In trouble with the FA over supposed remarks to disabled supporters after one match this term. (Alleged).

Ray Parlour
Sustained a depressed fracture of the cheekbone after a scuffle at Butlin's Holiday Camp in Bognor Regis. Was fined by the club after another scuffle with a taxi driver in Hong Kong and was involved

with the fire extinguisher incident with Mr Adams. (Alleged).

Andy Linighan
Reportedly accused of making anti-Semitic remarks involving Adolf Hitler to a Jewish taxi driver, Harry Levy, after a Players Union dinner at London's Grosvenor Hotel. Adding insult to injury, refused to pay the fare also. (Alleged).

David Hillier
Was fined 750 stg and ordered to pay 970 stg to a Danish gentleman after stealing his luggage at Gatwick Airport. Involved in this prank were Bolton player Wayne Burnett and Adam Old.

Paul Merson
Sent home from Singapore club trip and confessed to taking cocaine plus an addiction to gambling and alcohol. Was also banned from driving for 18 months after an incident at a club dinner.

George Graham
Found guilty in the infamous "bung scandal" by an FA appointed committee. Banned from any active role in the game but now manager of Leeds United.

The above comments have been freely reported in the UK Press stretching over many months and one wonders whether this is indicative of a club in turmoil or whether in years gone by it was there but swept under the carpet. Perhaps considered "not newsworthy" in days of yore,

football has never been bigger than it is today and is perhaps, another reason why we see more of this sort of headline.

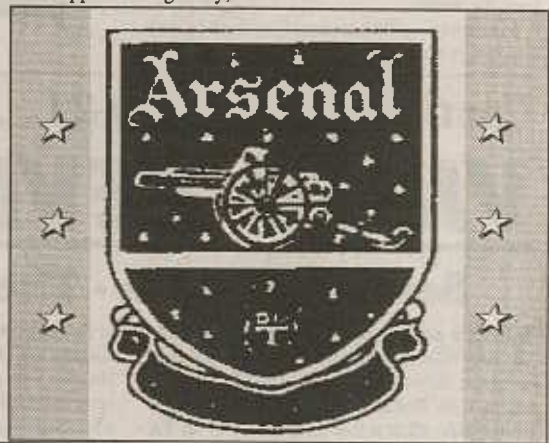
Whatever the reason, Arsenal appear to be getting back to football and there is no doubt that other clubs suffer similar problems with players and it has to be asked if the pressure of today's high profile and non existent private life are proving too much for some to cope with?

We wish Mr Adams and ALL players in a similar situation the very best for the future remembering that it takes a very big man to admit to such problems. It's a great shame that things had to come so far before reaching out but let's hope it helps others in the future to realise the signs and act upon them.

The last piece of this troubled saga came when long time servant of the club - Stewart Houston - departed for the managerial position at QPR. He left saying that it was the second time he'd been "care-taker manager" but at least when George Graham went he was in the running for the job before Bruce Rioch landed it. This time he wasn't even considered for the top position at Highbury, which he clearly felt he could handle. Bruce Rioch - sacked 4 days before the start of the season - is now his assistant at Loftus Road, a case of role reversal, and no-one can argue that Houston is right to want to further his career. A joke going around the north

London area is: Why are the Arsenal Board like the crew of Apollo 13? Everytime there's a problem they call Houston! A sorry tale but true. If it can happen at Highbury, the

bastion of tradition and a club that has stood the test of time for the good things in football, what price the same or bigger problems at other clubs?



EUROPEAN COMPETITION CHANGES

Under the new UEFA Regulations, all teams partaking in the UEFA Cup this season must name a squad of 25 players for the opening three rounds of the competition. The only players that can be called upon to come into that number are youngsters under the age of 20 years who've spent at least two full years with the club.

However, those teams that reach the fourth round, may

then add two new signings to the line-up, suffice to say they have not played in this year's tournament of course.

The card system remains in operation this year, with any player being shown the yellow twice missing the next match in the competition and that applies to a player shown the red outright. Bans can be carried over to the following season's matches if unable to meet the requirements this term.

Cowdenbeath FC

BY STUART JONES

Ground: Central Park.
Address: High Street, Cowdenbeath KY4 9EY.
Railway Station: Cowdenbeath 2 minute walk.
Founded: 1881.
Admitted to League: 1921.
Ground Capacity: 5,268.
Seats: 1,622.
Pitch Size: 107yd * 66yd.
Largest Gate: 25,586 v Rangers Lge cup Quarter Final, 21 September 1949.
Biggest Win: 12-0 v Johnstone Scottish Cup Rd 1 21 January 1928.
Heaviest Defeat: 1-11 v Clyde Div 2 6 Oct, 1951.
Nickname: Cowden or Blue Brazil.
Colours: Royal Blue with White and Red.
Honours: Second Division: 1913-14, 1914-15, 1938-39.

History: The club was formed by three local mining teams amalgamating in 1881. The side first played at Jubilee Park until 1888 when they moved to North End Park which was off referred to as the "Colliers Den" and is still open today. In 1917 the club moved to Central Park. In 1921 the Main Stand was opened and two years later this small club reached the first division. They had increased rivalry as local boys Lochgelly United were around in the League until 1926. In 1949 the Blue Brazil boys beat Rangers 3-2 in the first leg of the League Cup quarter finals and over 25,000, well more than Cowdenbeath's actual population, turned out to see Rangers reverse this result. In October 1968 the club switched on its floodlights for the first time, in a game against Celtic. Central Park saw not only football but greyhound racing, speedway, and stock car racing for which it is now a leading venue and in 1985 the World Championships were held there. In 1983 the Chapel Street stand roof was blown off and in November 1985 vandals caused much damage to the stand after setting it alight. Considerable money has been spent improving the facilities at the ground. It is still a small town club and now languishes in the third division in Scotland.

OLDHAM STRUGGLE IN DIVISION ONE

Oldham without a win this season have slipped to four points behind Bradford and Southend at the foot of Division 1. It is only two seasons ago that the Latics graced the Premier League.

Southend were sadly thrashed 6-1 by a rampaging Crystal Palace. Palace have now stuck away 21 goals to lie fifth from top.

Grimsby shocked high flying Barnsley at the Oakwell Ground with a solid 3-1 victory. The Mariners needed a victory to lift them away from the depths.

Free spending Birmingham City were held to a scoreless draw at St Andrews by Queens Park

Rangers and remain just outside the relegation zone.

Draw specialists Ipswich went to the Hawthornes forcing a 0-0 result against inconsistent West Bromwich Albion.

Reading's leaky defence managed to contain Huddersfield to just one goal in Yorkshire.



Continued from page 21 ...

VIDEO REVIEW

Best and Marsh - The Original

Yes it's not a misprint but the first of the two videos made by Granada TV that involved these two wonderful players. It begins with Bestie's return to a Manchester United side after a five match ban in an FA Cup tie at Northampton Town, final result - Northampton 2 Manchester United 8 (George Best 6, setting a club scoring record into the bargain). Then we see the pair of them playing for Fulham, a team that included the late great Bobby Moore at the time, and the smiles on the faces of players and referee alike are worth a look alone.

The next segment looks at great goalkeepers and feature Gordon Banks and Pat Jennings amongst others before the debate turns to the great managers. Clips include the contrasting styles of Brian Clough's Derby county side to the revolutionary Leeds United team put together by Don Revie. Both have a few things to say about that Leeds side and it's certainly not always complimentary!

Lastly, the discussion turns to the special place Liverpool Football club has in English football. Classic clips from their great sides of the 70s with wave after wave of action involving Kenny Dalglish, Terry McDermott, Kevin Keegan, Hughes, Toshack et al. The final extract from the video shows probably one

of the finest performances ever witnessed as the mighty red machine demolish Tottenham Hotspur 7-0. Astonishingly so as the team line-up reads that the Spurs side was not made up of a bunch of mugs but seasoned professionals.

A magnificent video full of laughs, discussion and some great footage. Priced at 11:49 Stg (inc airmail p-p) and available from our good friends at Tracks, 14 Railway Street, Hertford, Herts SG14-1BG. Fill in the coupon below for news of the great "Buy four, get one free" offer to ABSW readers, pay only postage for the free video but you MUST use the official coupon, no photocopies etc are acceptable.

Please send your list of videos and news of "Buy Four, Get One Free" UK-D/AB-W.

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TRACKS, 14 Railway St., Hertford,

Weird and Wonderful

There are a large number of Aussies playing football in Britain these days. Many others have tried and failed. Here is a progress report on just some of them this season (up until 23rd September). In Brackets are cup games.

Team	Player	Games	Substituted off	Used as a Sub	Sub not used
Crystal Palace	Veart	4	3(1)	1	0
Aston Villa	Muscat	8 (1)			
Sheffield United	Bosnich			1 (1)	1
Bristol City	Hodgson	1		4 (2)	1
	Agostino	(1)	3	2	1
Millwall	Seal				
Notts County	Neill	4 (1)	3 (1)		
Luton	Murphy	6 (21)		1	
Wolverhampton	Oldfield	3 (3)	3		
Swindon	Corica	5	3 (2)		
Southampton	Talia	8 (3)			
West Ham	Slater	3	(1)	1	
	Slater	1	1	2 (1)	3
	Lazaridis	2	2		
	Mautone	(1)			
Crewe	Mautone	3			
Coventry	Filan				7 (1)
Reading	Bernall	5 (1)	1	2	(1)
	Lovell	(1)			



Other teams with Aussies on their books include Liverpool, QPR, Charlton, Sheffield Wednesday, Leeds, Glasgow Rangers and Walsall. That's a total of 21 clubs involved with Aussies!

Leading Aussie Goal Scorers: Neill — 3 lge goals; Oldfield — 1 cup goal; Agostino — 1 cup goal; Veart — 1 lge goal; Muscat — 1 lge goal.

Of interest: In one game this season Paul Agostino was replaced by David Seal. Carl Veart and Kevin Muscat scored their first goals this season for Palace in the same game — the 6-1 thrashing of Reading. Neither Bernall nor Lovell were in the Royal's side for that game. Mark Bosnich has been injured this season. Frank Talia has been ever present for Swindon in goal, whilst John Filan has been ever present in the Coventry team, but unfortunately for him it has all been on the bench! West Ham had the most Aussies in the one squad with three but of course Slater moved to Soton. Now there are a few teams with two Aussies. Not quite the days when Millwall had four Aussies. Just in the last couple of weeks Doug Hodgson has played his first full League game this year for another team that used to have two Aussies — Sheffield United. Steve Mautone got his first game for West Ham, Peter Shilton was his reserve keeper. The result ended 1-1 against Barnet. He has since played a league match Congratulations to many of the Aussies who have become regulars in the team line ups. There are many still looking to consolidate a place and quite a few youngsters who are not in first team consideration yet. Their time will come. Injury has seen many of the better known Aussie players in and out of their teams, let's hope that they all recover and play a full part in their teams progress.

One final note: there have been Aussies playing in the top flight in England to way back in the 1930s Ask a certain Derek Dooley — that great striker who tragically lost his leg following a tackle by an Aussie lad, albeit a fair one. Unfortunately for Dooley, the injury failed to heal, became infected and resulted in amputation of the leg.

WYCOMBE SCORE THREE BUT LOSE

Barry Fry's Peterborough United knocked winless Wycombe for six although the visitors managed to score three times.

Brentford continued with their unbeaten run although they had to settle for a 3-3 scoreline at home to York.

Bristol City spoiled Burnley's chances of moving up when the west country team came away with a 3-2 win at Turf Moor.

Walsall did themselves a big favour with a sound 3-1 home win over Bury. However the Saddlers are still on the brink.

Notts County a pre-season favourite for promotion are fourth from bottom spot despite a creditable 0-0 draw

at Meadow Lane.

Millwall were beaten at Deepdale by the odd goal in three by a desperate Preston North End.

Chesterfield could have moved above Millwall but Bristol Rovers proved too good for them by 2 goals to nil. The Spiriters are in seventh position.

Crewe are third after a sparkling 3-0 victory over visitors Plymouth to Gresty Road.

Rotherham gained their first win of the season at home to Bournemouth by the single goal. This result allowed the Merry Millers to get away from the foot of the tables albeit just one place.

BRIGHTON SLIDE CONTINUE

Brighton's demise continued on Saturday with a 0-3 reversal at Northampton. The Seagulls have now conceded 17 goals in just 9 games.

Carlisle, relegated last season, are just one point adrift of top placed Fulham and looking likely to bounce back up.

The Blues travelled the long journey to Torquay and went home 2-1 victors.

Fulham gained a 2-0 away win against north easterners Darlington and head the table.

Former strugglers Mansfield Town, continued their revival when they beat Hereford at Field Mill by 3

goals to 1.

Scarborough dented Wigans top spot challenge when they downed the visitors 3-1 on the Yorkshire coast.

Hull City meanwhile maintained their draw specialist tag with a nil-nil result in South Wales with Swansea.

The other third division Welsh team, Cardiff City were kept to a blank scoresheet at Lincoln by the Imps who scored twice.



SHAMED CELTIC ANXIOUSLY WAITING UEFA REACTION

Celtic will find out this week the extent of its punishment from UEFA following its night of shame in Hamburg last week.

Malky Mackay and John Hughes were both dismissed after double bookings in the first 41 minutes of the emphatic UEFA Cup first round defeat.

Celtic lost 2-0 both home and away for a 4-0 aggregate defeat and may even face a fine after having three players sent off in four UEFA ties this season when Simon Donnelly's ordering off in Kosice in the preliminary round tie is added. In all Celtic has had six players sent off this season, four in the last four matches.

Mackay and Hughes will be automatically suspended for one match in Celtic's next European campaign and manager Tommy Burns is also facing a possible punishment for criticism of Belarus referee Vadim Schuk.

"It depends on the player's individual record," said a UEFA spokesman today.

"The red cards will be

assessed at the next meeting of the Control and Disciplinary Committee which is scheduled for Thursday, October 3.

"As for the manager, that would depend if there is anything included in the report by the official UEFA delegate, Mr Debruin of Holland, which we have not yet received."

Burns could be in trouble after approaching the referee after the half-time whistle as the officials left the pitch.

The Celtic boss is even more concerned about the massive gulf between Scottish and European club soccer after his team's 4-0 aggregate defeat.

The exit extends the former European champions' miserable record of never making it past the second round of any European competition for 13 years.

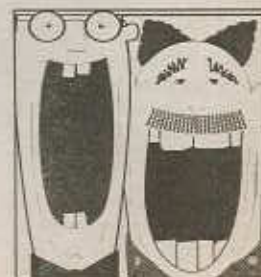
Yet, the implications for Scotland are equally disturbing, given that Celtic has not been defeated in the premier division for exactly a year.

Burns gloomily confessed: "We have a lot of catching up to do."

Trivia Fun

Some of you in NSW, Qld and the ACT may have noticed that in selected pubs and clubs you can play Trivia games on TV.

Well we're reliably informed that next Monday, October 6 from 6.30pm, you can test your knowledge of British Soccer and it costs nothing to play!



UK STORIES

League Cup sensations in England

Second division York City last week caused another major English League Cup sensation after beating premier division Everton 3-2 in its second round, second leg match to advance 4-3 on aggregate.

Twelve months ago York dumped Manchester United out of the League Cup at the same stage following a 3-0 win at Old Trafford to advance 4-3 on aggregate.

First division Manchester City lost 1-0 at home and 5-1 on aggregate to third division Lincoln City, while both Sheffield teams, Wednesday and United, crashed out.

Premier division Wednesday lost 1-0 at Oxford and United was hammered 5-2 at home against Stockport

County, already 2-1 up from the first leg. Middlesbrough strolled into

the third round, winning 3-0 at Hereford to secure a 10-0 aggregate success.



LEADING SCORERS

England



6. Fabrizio Ravanelli (Middlesbrough), Ian Wright (Arsenal)
4. Kevin Campbell (Nottingham Forest), Les Ferdinand (Newcastle), Juninho (Middlesbrough), Patrik Berger (Liverpool), Matthew Le Tissier (Southampton), Eric Cantona (Manchester United), Efan Ekoku (Wimbledon), Frank Leboeuf (Chelsea), Alan Shearer (Newcastle)

Scotland



6. Pierre Van Hooydonk (Celtic), Billy Dodds (Aberdeen)
5. Paul Gascoigne (Rangers)
4. Jorge Cadete (Celtic), Ally McCoist (Rangers), Peter Van Vossen (Rangers), Dean Windass (Aberdeen), Andreas Thom (Celtic), Gary McSwegan (Dundee United), Gerry Britton (Dunfermline)

WIMBLEDON MOVE UP TO THIRD

Arsenal scored a 2-0 victory over nine-man Sunderland on Saturday to join Liverpool at the top of England's Premier League.

Sunderland had midfielder Martin Scott and forward Paul Stewart sent off in the first half and went on solid defence until John Hartson and Ray Parlour scored in the final 20 minutes for the Gunners.

The result means that Arsenal, which is waiting for new French manager Arsene Wenger to join the club, now has 17 points from eight games.

Wimbledon, struggling near the foot of the standings at the start of the season, won for the fifth time in a row to move up to third with 15. The Dons scored a 2-0 victory at promoted Derby with goals by Robbie Earle and Marcus Gayle.

Next to last Southampton, now managed by Graeme Souness, gained its first victory of the season in style, downing Middlesbrough 4-0 with two goals from England international Matt Le Tissier and others from Matthew Oakley and Gordon Watson.

Leeds, looking for its first victory under new manager George Graham, slipped to third from last after losing 1-0 at promoted Leicester, where Emile Heskey scored the only goal.

A last minute goal by Jason Lee earned Nottingham Forest a 1-1 draw at Chelsea after Italian striker Gianluca Vialli had fired the home team ahead.

Everton gained a 2-0 victory over a sliding



Matt Le Tissier: Helped Southampton to their first victory of the season with two goals.

Sheffield Wednesday team which led the standings after winning its first four games but now is seventh. After Everton's David Unsworth had missed an early penalty, Andrei Kanchelskis and Graham Stuart downed Wednesday at Goodison.

Last-placed Blackburn and Coventry fought out a predictable 0-0 draw at Highfield Road which is typical of two strugglers.

Bolton, which was relegated from the Premier League last season, moved two points clear of its rivals in Division One after a 1-1 result at home to Stoke, which scored a last minute equaliser.

But Manchester City's slide continues as owner Francis Lee struggles to find a new manager. His team went down 2-0 at Sheffield United and lies 14th in the 24 club standings.

In Scotland, Rangers moved five points clear of Celtic by beating its Glasgow rival 2-0 at Ibrox. Rangers is aiming to equal Celtic's record of nine titles in a row and ended its neighbour's run of 37 games unbeaten.

Richard Gough powered in a 10 metre header from a corner by German team-mate Joerg Albertz and Paul Gascoigne scored the second in the final minute after Celtic's John Hughes had headed against the bar.

Celtic's Tosh McKinlay was red carded for his second yellow card two minutes before half-time. The midfielder was the sixth Celtic player to be sent off this season including two in Tuesday's UEFA Cup game at Hamburg.

CONTROVERSIAL DECISIONS RUIN SUNDERLAND'S CHANCES

English referee Paul Danson sparked a new row over officials on Saturday when he sent off two Sunderland players for relatively minor offences and reduced the match against Arsenal to a farce.

With Sunderland having had the best of the opening spell and the game being played in a sporting spirit, Danson booked Sunderland striker Paul Stewart for a deliberate handball.

In only the 15th minute, he then booked Sunderland defender Martin Scott for a hard tackle on Arsenal's Lee Dixon.

Six minutes later he booked Scott and sent him off for a late tackle on Dixon, which looked clumsy but not malicious.

Then he had a stand-up row with Sunderland manager Peter Reid and sent him out of the dugout.

With half-time still six minutes away, he booked Stewart for a second handball and sent him off.

The match was effectively over as a contest. Sunderland played with its remaining nine men back in defence for the rest of the game before losing 2-0 to two late goals.

Reid was furious and could hardly find words to describe his feelings. Police protected Danson's dressing room door and Sunderland's fans went away feeling they had lost as much to the referee as to Arsenal.

Reid, who admitted he called the referee "a disgrace" added: "All we want from decisions is a bit of common sense. I didn't see a bad tackle in the game. I have to apologise for my actions. I was out of order and completely unprofessional. But you get carried away in an emotional game."

Arsenal's caretaker-manager Pat Rice, who hands over to new boss Arsene Wenger on Monday, said he had every sympathy for Reid and Stewart.

Rice said: "I told Peter I

though the game had been spoiled by the two send offs.

"If Paul Stewart had been my player I would have been very disappointed to see him sent off for handball.

"It is a shame and I felt the referee could have allowed him a bit of leeway. He could have said, 'Do that again and you are off,' instead of showing the red card."

It is not the first time this season Danson has been involved in controversy. He reported Coventry manager Ron Atkinson for his behaviour after Atkinson told him he had missed a clear handball offence before Chelsea scored a goal against Coventry at Stamford Bridge three weeks ago.

Atkinson has since been charged with bringing the game into disrepute.

Two years ago Danson sent off Alvin Martin, then playing for West Ham, but the Football Association later decided he was wrong to do so after examining video

evidence.

The match followed a plea from referee David Ellery, who sent off Everton's Duncan Ferguson last week, for the public to show greater understanding of referees' problems.

The officials are following strict orders from the governing bodies to apply discipline but have attracted criticism that some referees are following the edicts too closely.



JOHNNIE WALKER CUP



FINAL

Sunday October 6th

Bob Jane Stadium — 3.00pm

Collingwood

v

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